

AMERICAN COMICS GROUP

GIANT 52-PAGE SIZE! BUY NO LESS!

AMERICAN COMICS GROUP

ACG

NO 20 DEC.

Loveland

STIRRING STORIES of REAL ROMANCE

10¢

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY
OF MY MATHEMATICS CLASSES
SO INTERESTED IN MY
LECTURE BEFORE!



WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM



Sensational New Scientifically Designed ^{Patent Pend.} BRAS for LARGE • MEDIUM • SMALL BUSTS

Correct and Flatter Your Individual Bust Problems INSTANTLY! on **FREE 10-DAY TRIAL!**

LARGE BUST

SIZES
34 TO 52

Style
No.
101
Long-
line
Built-up
Shoulder
only

\$2.98



Complete Line of "Yuth-Bust" Bra Designs to fit and flatter your individual figure type.

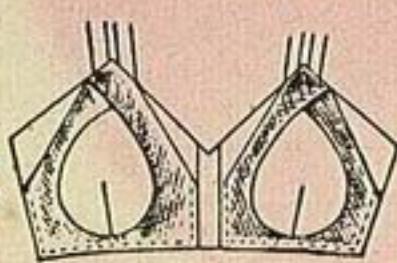
COLORS
NUDE, WHITE
BLACK

**Look Slimmer and
Years Younger!**

Self-Conscious about oversized, spread out, sagging busts? Does your bustline make you look years older than you are? Both Longline and Bandeau styles of "Yuth-Bust" Bras have an exclusive patent pend. feature for youthful curves. Gives busts a bewitching separation. Style No. 101 and No. 202 Longline also have SPECIAL V CONTROL FEATURE of midriff support to help FLATTEN BULGING STOMACH; also girdle attachment hooks. Light and comfortable—yet firm! Built-up shoulder straps of bra fabric. Simple adjustments. Excellent durable fabric—easy to wash.

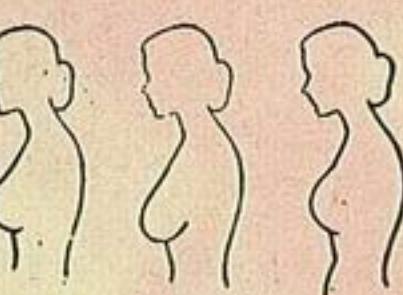
SECRET INSIDE CONTROL

Helps correct your individual large bust problem!



Illustrated are some of the large bust types who can be helped.

Special patent pend. bust molding feature on inside of all "Yuth-Bust" styles, lifts, supports and cups large busts into the smaller youthful alluring shape you want, whether they are extra large, spread out or sagging.



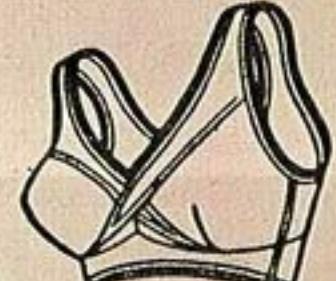
One of Our Many Satisfied Customers Below Says:
"I've always had expensive bras made to order. But I could never get the satisfactory fit, style and attractive bustline for my full bust that your 'Yuth-Bust' bra now gives me."
—Mrs. G. Hauff, Norwalk, Conn.



Style No. 202 Adjustable Shoulder Strap Bra only \$2.98.



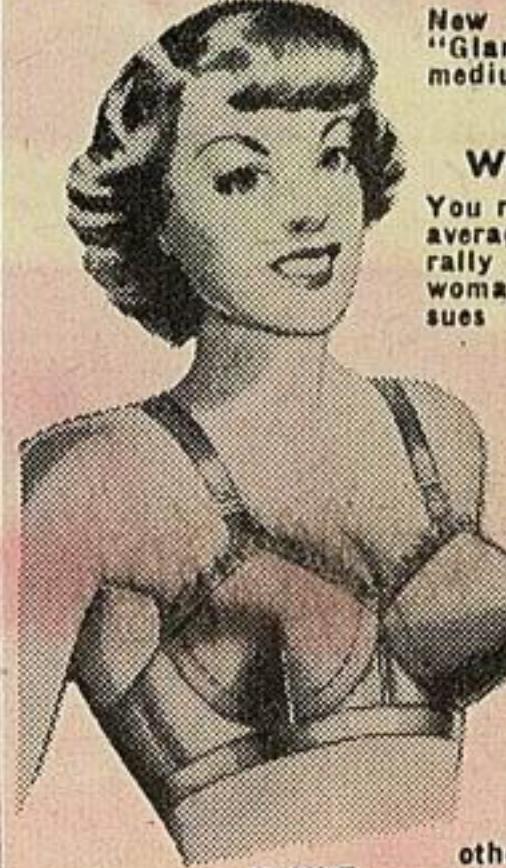
Style No. 303 Bandeau Adjustable Strap Bra only \$2.75.



Style No. 404 Bandeau Built-up Shoulder Bra only \$2.75.

MEDIUM BUST

SIZES
32 TO 42



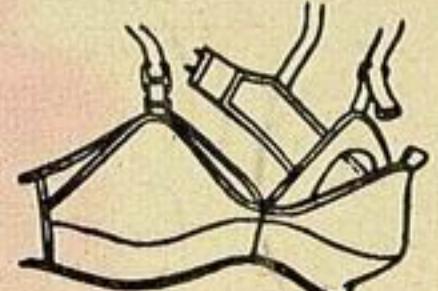
New Patent Pend. constructed "Glamour-Form" bra corrects medium bust problems in a jiffy!

COLORS—NUDE,
WHITE, BLUE, BLACK

You rarely see a woman with an average size bust which is naturally perfect. That is because a woman's breast muscles and tissues break down leaving your bust shaped with one or more problems that should be overcome. Your medium bust may be too flatly spread out, or it may sag too much, or it may have lost its firmness and roundness. Your ordinary bra is not designed to correct your individual bust problem. For this reason a famous bust culture stylist designed the "Glamour-Form" Bra to specifically correct the medium size bust problems. Does wonders for your figure in any outfit you wear—like no other bra! Gorgeous, wonderful quality fabric that washes like a dream! Simple adjustable shoulder straps.

STYLE
No. 505

straps and adjustable elastic back closing. Only... \$2.49



INNER BRA BUST BEAUTIFIER which does marvels for your individual medium bust problems.

Here's Another Satisfied Customer Below who says:
"I can't thank you enough for my "Glamour-Form" Bra. Your inside feature does more for my bustline than any other bra I ever wore."
—Miss J. Ward, Birmingham, Michigan.



BEFORE Miss Ward wore the "Glamour-Form" Bra, her unattractive bustline gave her clothes a "baggy" look. She looked unappealing and was rarely invited out.



AFTER she wore the "Glamour-Form" Bra for her average size bust, her bewitching bustline made her clothes fit her like a movie star. She now sparkles with personality and is socially popular.

BEFORE Miss Harris wore the "Up-and-Out" Bra, she was flat, unshapely, and shy.

AFTER she wore the "Up-and-Out" Bra, her attractive bustline gave her poise, confidence.

SMALL BUST

Style
222

SIZES
28 TO 38

Special Design "Up-and-Out" Bra gives You a Fuller, Alluring Bustline Instantly!

NO PADS!

No Artificial Bust Build-up Needed!

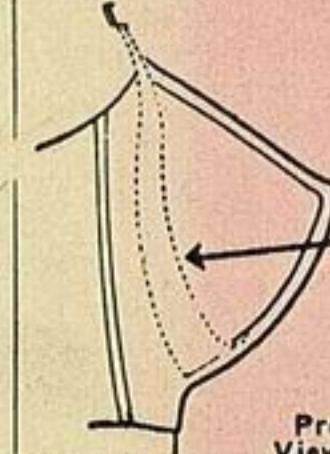
COLORS

NUDE, WHITE
BLUE, BLACK

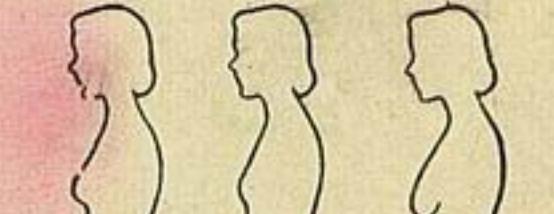
Self conscious about your flat looking bustline? Figure Beauty starts with a glamorous bustline. The sensational "Up-and-Out" Bra has an exclusive secret patent pend. feature that tends to lift and cup flat, unshapely, small busts into a fuller, well-rounded, exciting bustline like magic instantly! NO PADS—no artificial bust build-up needed! Firm elastic back and easy to adjust shoulder straps. Beautiful fabric—easy to wash. Now Wear All Dresses, Blouses, Sweaters, etc. (No Matter How Form Fitting) With Bustline Confidence! Only... \$2.49



Illustrated are some types who can be helped



Profile View of Hidden Feature in Bra which does wonders for your individual small, flat bust problem.



This special patent pending bust molding feature on inside of bra lifts, supports and cups your busts, NO MATTER WHETHER THEY ARE SMALL, FLAT, OR SAGGING, into Fuller, Well-Rounded "Up-and-Out" curves like magic instantly!

One of Our Many Satisfied Customers Below Says:
"... It's amazing how its special feature gives my bustline real glamour."

—Miss Doris Harris, Wichita, Kansas.



BEFORE Miss Harris wore the "Up-and-Out" Bra, she was flat, unshapely, and shy.



AFTER she wore the "Up-and-Out" Bra, her attractive bustline gave her poise, confidence.

Send No Money! FREE 10 DAY TRIAL!

I TESTED SALES CO., Dept. 45B11, C

296 Broadway
New York City

Rush to me my specially designed bra for my individual figure checked below in PLAIN WRAPPER plus my FREE "Glamour Bustline Course" which I will keep whether I return merchandise or not. I will pay postman on delivery the price, plus postage. If after 10 days, I am not completely satisfied, I may return merchandise for my money back. Be sure to write in HOW MANY, SIZE and COLOR of styles you desire.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

Check here if you wish to save postage by enclosing only the price with this order form. Same Money Back Guarantee!

FREE!

with your order of any bra whether you keep it or not!
GLAMOUR BUSTLINE COURSE
For SMALL—MEDIUM—LARGE BUSTS

An authority shows you how to improve your individual bustline appearance so that your new bra looks its best on you! Contains 3 sections for each bust type; instructs the Small, Medium, Large bust type what to do for their own bust problem. Most scientific, up-to-date guidance. Step-by-step illustrations with easy to understand directions. Partial list of priceless contents in this course are: Simple illustrated scientific movements. What type of clothing you should wear to gain the desired bustline appearance—for each of the small, medium and large bust women. Illustration of bust structure and how it works. Figure proportion charts giving correct bust size according to height and weight. Plus other methods of bustline improvement! Yours free of extra charge with your order of any of the above bras—whether you keep the bra or not—if you act NOW!

"I WAS A CHAMPION ... A TOP - I COULD WHIP OVER A SERVE DIME! I HAD PUBLICITY, FAME! BUT I FOUND THAT EVEN A CHAMP LIFE THAT IS VITAL! EVEN A CHAMP CAN BE BEATEN IN..."

FLIGHT TENNIS PLAYER?
AND MAKE IT LAND ON A
I PLAYED TO WIN---AND I DID!
CAN LOSE THE ONE GAME IN

THE LOVE SET

K.W.

"MY FATHER STARTED TEACHING ME TO HANDLE A RACKET ALMOST AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER! FOR MOST KIDS IT WAS MUSIC OR DANCING LESSONS ... BUT FOR ME IT WAS THE COURT!"

YOUR BACKHAND'S STILL WEAK, RUTH! CONCENTRATE ON IT!

YES, DADDY!

"I ALWAYS DID WHAT DADDY SAID---WITHOUT QUESTION! AND HE WAS DETERMINED THAT ONE DAY I'D WIN THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP! THAT MEANT DISCIPLINE ... STRICTNESS ... AND BECAUSE THEY MIGHT INTERFERE WITH MY CAREER... NO DATES!"

OOOPS! I SURE BOOTED THAT ONE! HOPE DADDY WASN'T WATCHING!

"I VAULTED QUICKLY OVER THE FENCE TO GET THE BALL! I DIDN'T NOTICE THE BOY... UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE!"

HEY!



ALL I WAS DOING WAS RETURNING
THE BALL...AND THEN...
BLAM!

GOSH, I'M
SORRY!

"HE WAS THE BOY WHO'D MOVED IN NEXT DOOR
THE WEEK BEFORE! BUT I'D NEVER REALIZED
HOW HANDSOME HE WAS!"

DON'T BE SORRY...MAYBE IT WAS
FATE BRINGING US TOGETHER!
MY NAME'S JIM GORDON, AND I'VE
BEEN WONDERING ABOUT YOU!
WHY DO YOU SPEND SO MUCH
TIME BANGING AWAY AT A
TENNIS BALL?

MY FATHER
WANTS ME
TO BE A
FAMOUS
PLAYER...
A CHAMP-
ION!

BUT WHAT ABOUT
YOU? DO YOU
WANT TO BE A
CHAMP?

WHY...
WHY, OF
COURSE!

"HE HAD A DISCONCERTING WAY OF ASKING QUESTIONS, ALMOST AS IF HE
WERE MOCKING YOU! IT FLUSTERED ME!"

IS
THAT
BAD?

I GUESS NOT, IF IT DOESN'T CUT OUT THE FUN
OF LIVING! PERSONALLY, I'D RATHER USE THE
TIME TO READ A GOOD BOOK OR TAKE A
HIKE...OR TALK TO A PRETTY GIRL!

RUTH! RUTH!
WHERE ARE
YOU?

THAT'S MY FATHER!
I...I MUST GET BACK
TO PRACTICE!

TO THE
SALT
MINES,

YOU MEAN!
...OKAY, MISS
MUSCLES,
HERE'S THE
BALL!

"I STARTED IN AGAIN...BUT THIS TIME
I HAD AN AUDIENCE!"

COME ON...COME
ON! YOU CAN DO
BETTER THAN THAT!
LET'S HAVE A
LITTLE MORE
STEAM IN
THOSE
DRIVES!

PLEASE
GO AWAY
AND
LEAVE
ME ALONE!

"BUT HE DIDN'T! I FINALLY COULDN'T
STAND IT ANY LONGER..."

IT'S THAT JIM
GORDON NEXT
DOOR, DADDY! HE
KEEPS HECKLING
ME! I WANT TO
STOP FOR
AWHILE...

YOU'LL
NEVER REACH
FOREST
HILLS THAT
WAY! AND AS
FOR THAT
SMART
ALECK...
IGNORE
HIM!

"**I**GNORE JIM? IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE! EVERYWHERE I WENT, HE SEEMED TO BE! HE EVEN JOINED THE SAME TENNIS CLUB! AND WHEN WE DREW FOR PARTNERS IN A MIXED-DOUBLES TOURNAMENT, I GOT ... JIM!"



"**J**IM WAS AT OUR HOUSE A LOT AFTER THAT... WITH DADDY'S BEAMING APPROVAL! I KNEW I WAS BEGINNING TO LIKE JIM... JUST HOW MUCH I DIDN'T REALIZE UNTIL LATER!"



"**D**DADDY DIDN'T GO FOR JIM'S ATTITUDE... AND RIGHT AWAY THE BIG FREEZE SET IN AGAIN! IT WAS INTIMATED THAT I'D BE BETTER OFF SEEING LESS OF JIM! ALONG ABOUT THIS TIME, THE BIG COUNTRY CLUB DANCE CAME ALONG ---"



"**W**HEN I TOLD JIM THE VERDICT..."

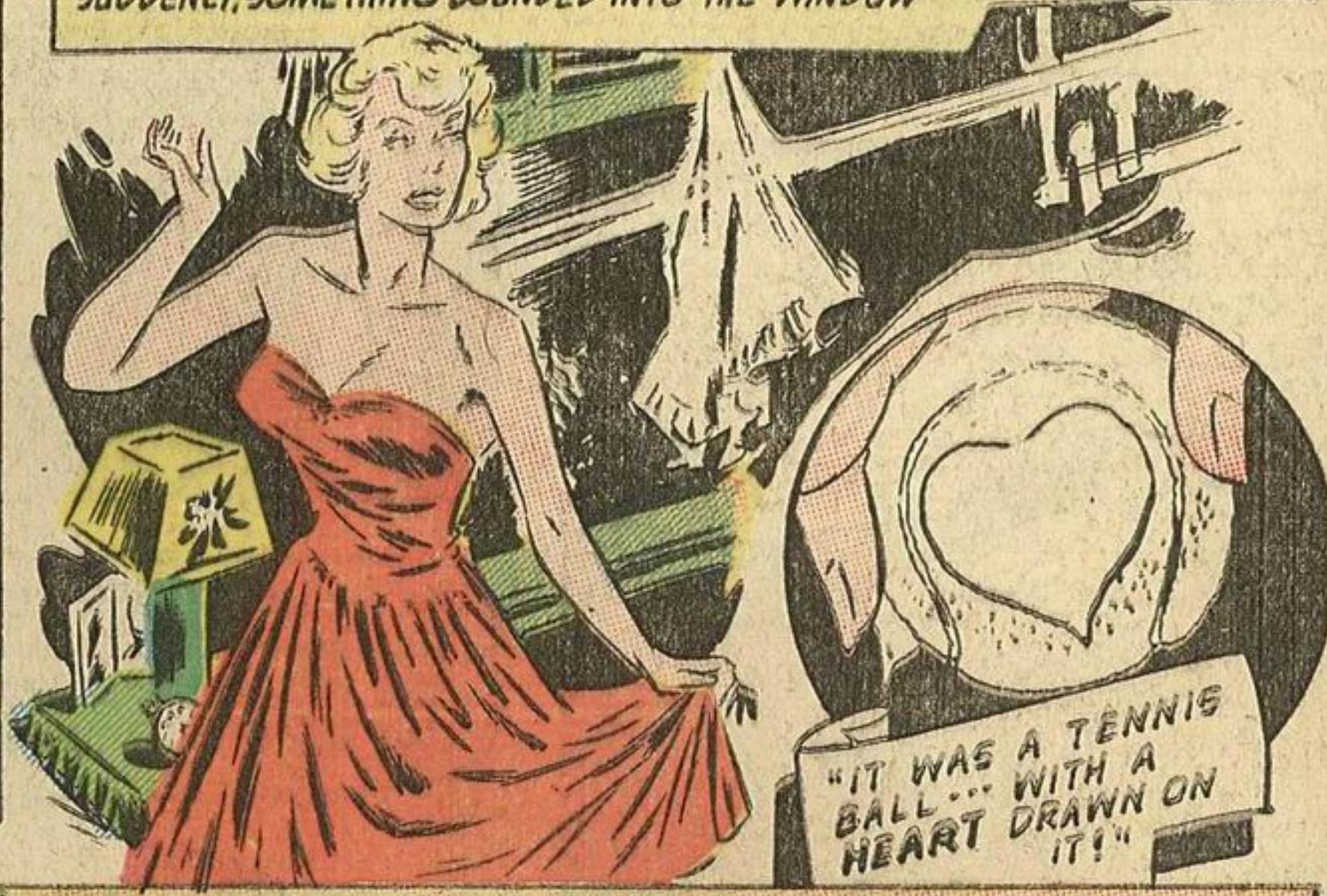
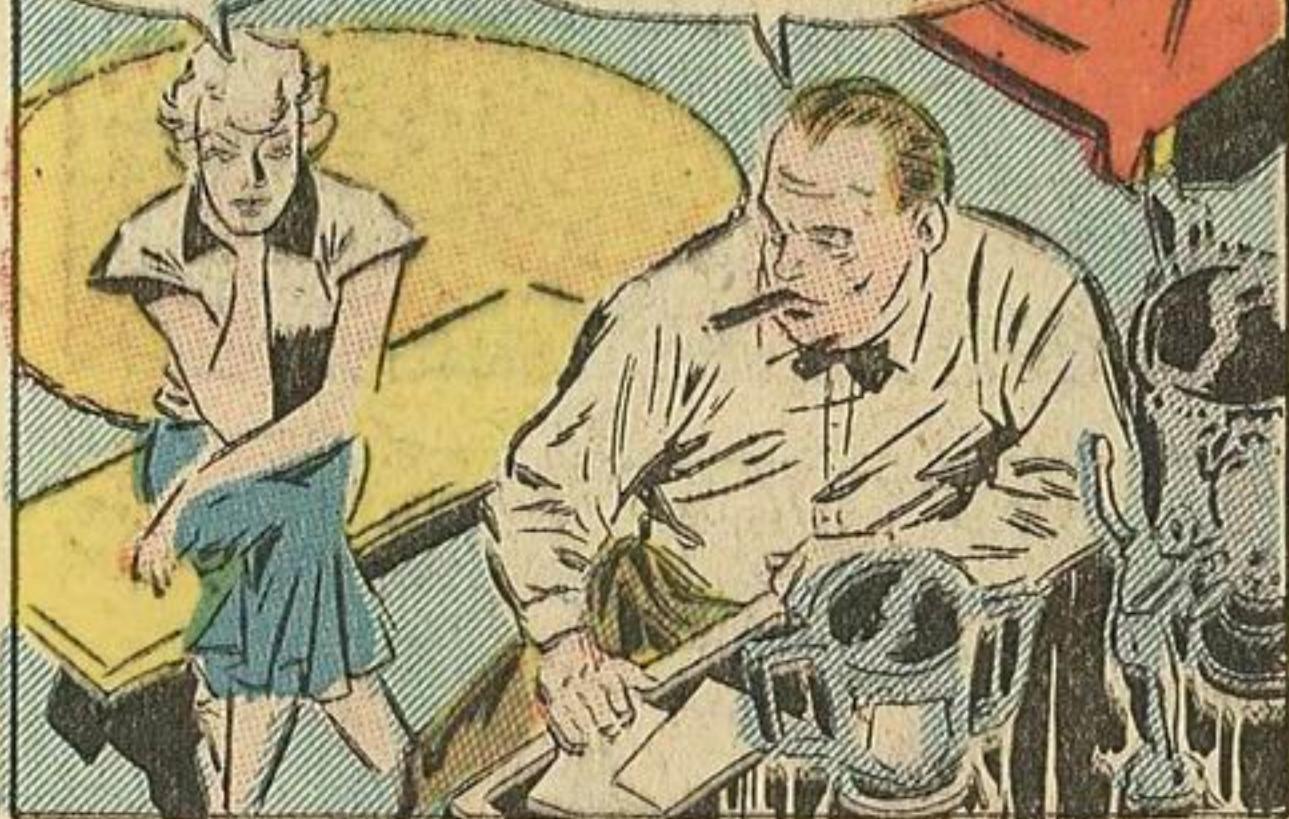


"**J**THE NIGHT OF THE DANCE I WAS MISERABLE! I TRIED TO LISTEN WHILE DADDY TALKED ABOUT THE TOURNAMENT... BUT MY MIND WAS FAR AWAY..."

I'M GOING TO BED, DADDY!

GOOD IDEA! GET PLENTY OF REST AND YOU'RE SURE TO WIN!

"**J** COULD THINK ONLY OF THE DANCE... THE LAUGHTER... JIM! IT WAS SILLY, PUTTING ON MY FORMAL... BUT IT HELPED ME TO DREAM! THEN, SUDDENLY, SOMETHING BOUNDED INTO THE WINDOW..."



"**J** LOOKED OUT... AND THERE WAS JIM, GRINNING AT ME!"

HI, MUSCLES!
SINCE YOU'RE ALL DRESSED FOR THE PARTY,
LET'S BREEZE!

BUT... BUT DADDY...



"**J** CAN'T SAY HOW IT HAPPENED... BUT BEFORE I KNEW IT, I HAD SCRAMBLED OUT THE WINDOW AND WAS HOLDING ONTO JIM'S HAND AND RUNNING FOR HIS CAR! I DIDN'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING... I WAS CAUGHT UP IN A SHIMMERING MAGIC SPELL!"



"**J**THE SPELL CONTINUED, BECAME EVEN MORE WONDERFUL WHEN I WAS IN JIM'S ARMS... DANCING!"

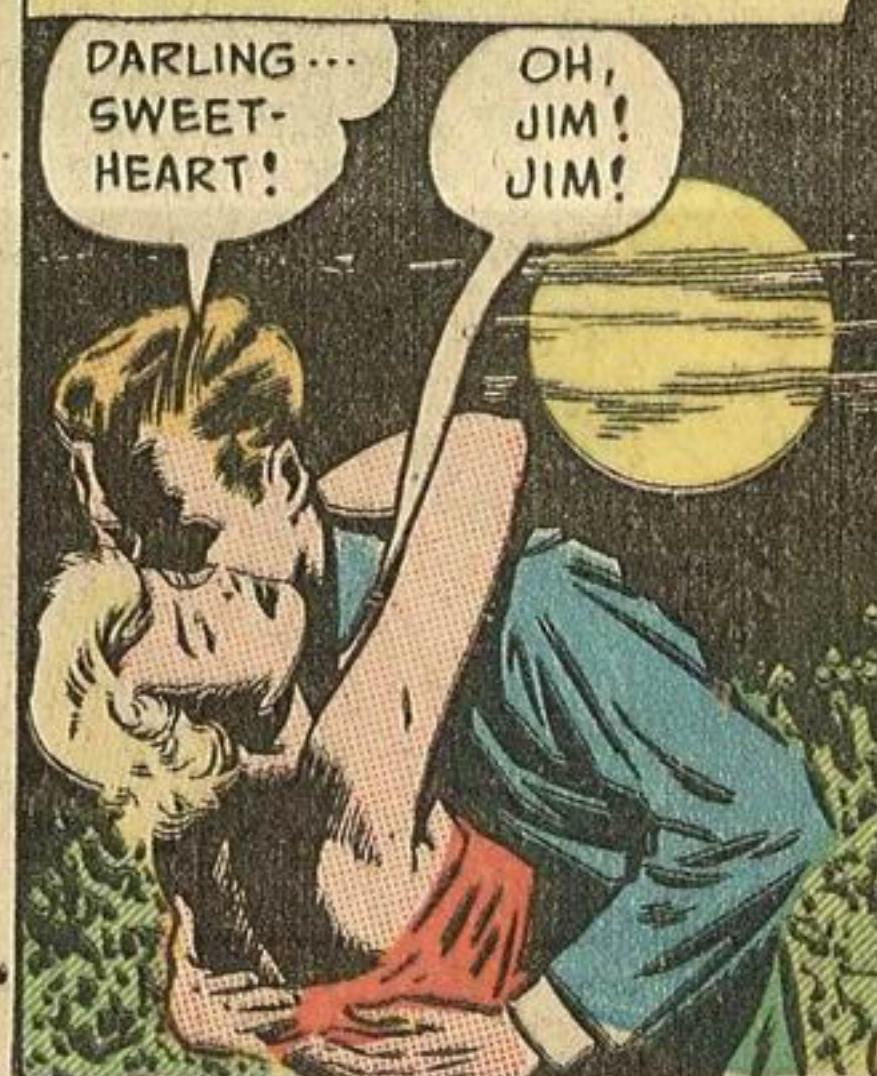
GLAD YOU CAME,
MUSCLES?

OH, JIM,
YES...
YES!



DARLING...
SWEET-
HEART!

OH,
JIM!
JIM!

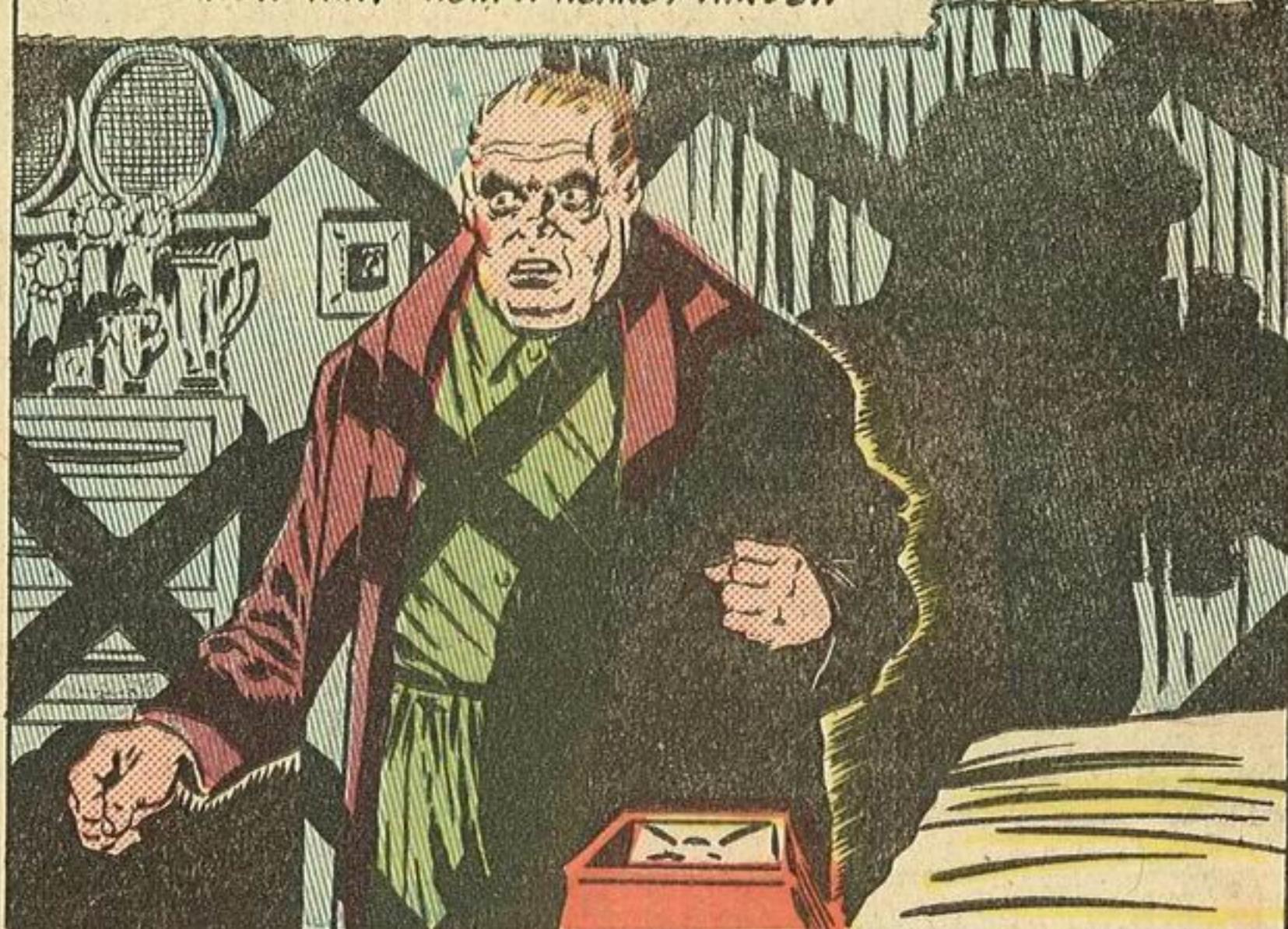


"**I**'LL NEVER FORGET THE MAGIC OF OUR HOMeward DRIVE! I SAW WITH RELIEF THAT THE HOUSE WAS IN DARKNESS..."

THANK HEAVENS!
DADDY MUST BE
ASLEEP!

PROBABLY DREAMING OF
YOU SERVING A SMOKING
ACE... MUSCLES, THIS HAS
BEEN A NIGHT I'LL NEVER
FORGET!

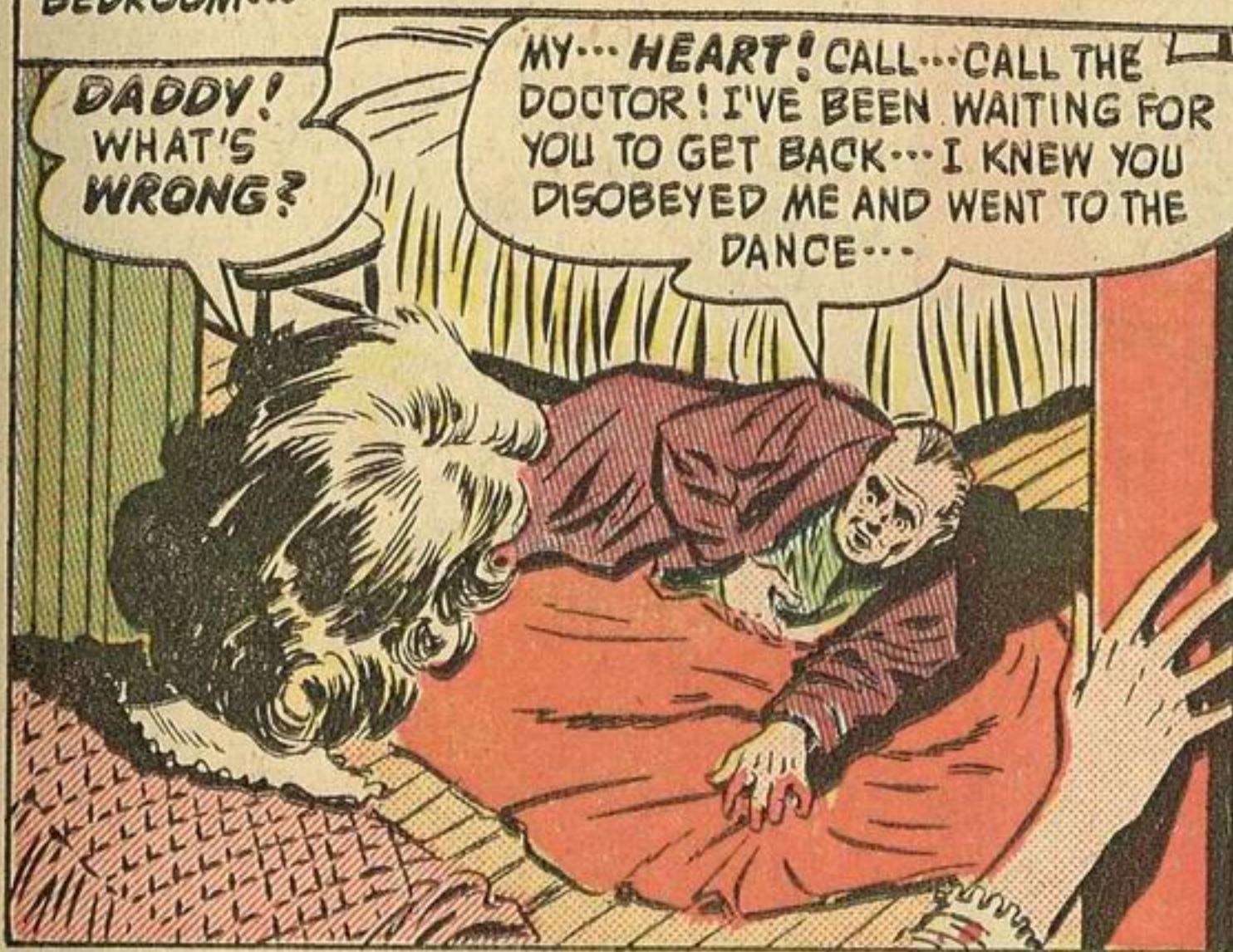
"**J**UST BEFORE I SLIPPED INTO THE HOUSE, JIM DREW ME TO HIM! I
DIDN'T KNOW THAT FROM A NEARBY WINDOW..."



"**I**T WAS SHORTLY AFTER THAT I HEARD DADDY'S VOICE CALLING ME! HE SOUNDED WEAK... URGENT! I RAN TO HIS BEDROOM..."

DADDY!
WHAT'S
WRONG?

MY... HEART! CALL... CALL THE
DOCTOR! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR
YOU TO GET BACK... I KNEW YOU
DISOBeyed ME AND WENT TO THE
DANCE...



"**T**ERRIFIED AND REMORSEFUL, I RUSHED TO THE PHONE!
FINALLY..."

HOW IS HE,
DOCTOR?
TELL ME!

CALM DOWN, RUTH... HE'S ALL RIGHT!
AS A MATTER OF FACT, HIS HEART
SEEMS VERY STEADY AND STRONG!
WE'LL HAVE TESTS RUN OFF LATER,
BUT IN THE MEANTIME HE SHOULD
REMAIN IN BED!



"**T**HE NEXT MORNING I WANTED TO
STAY HOME, BUT DADDY INSISTED THAT I
PLAY IN THE TOURNAMENT. I WAS BEATEN
BADLY!"

IF YOU'D DONE
WHAT I SAID
AND NOT BROKEN
TRAINING, YOU
COULD HAVE
WON!

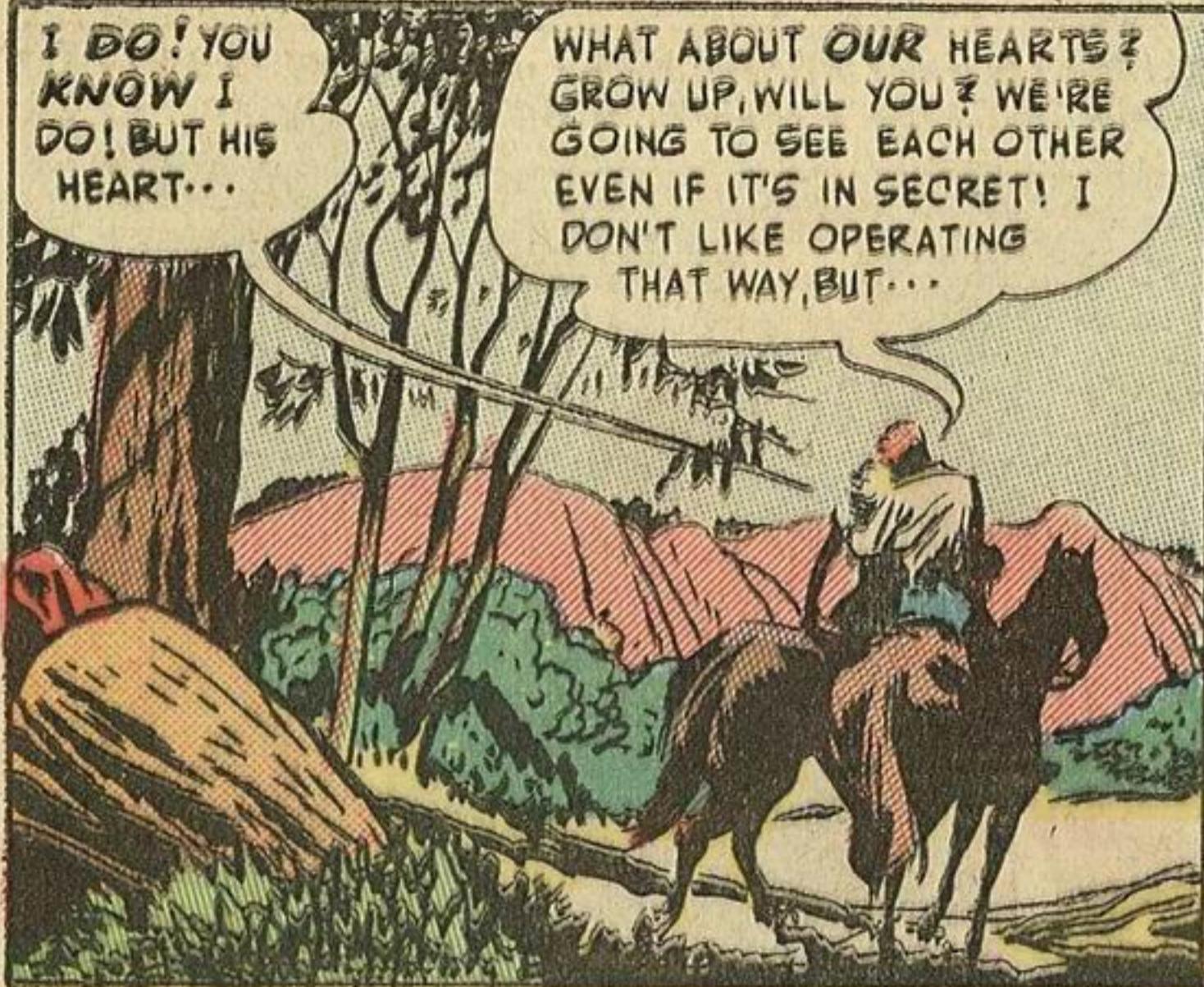
I...
SUPPOSE
SO...

"**H**E DIDN'T COME OUT AND SAY THAT
MY GOING TO THE DANCE HAD CAUSED
HIS HEART ATTACK, BUT HE MIGHT AS
WELL! THEN, CLUTCHING AT HIS
CHEST, HE SPOKE WORDS THAT WERE
LIKE SLASHING KNIVES..."

RUTH, YOU MUST NEVER
SEE JIM AGAIN! UNDER-
STAND? NEVER
AGAIN!

"**S**O... NEXT DAY..." I'M NOT BUY-
ING ANY OF
THAT! YOU
CAN'T LET YOUR
FATHER RUN
YOUR LIFE! I
THOUGHT YOU
LOVED
ME!





"I DIDN'T LIKE IT EITHER... YET THAT'S THE WAY IT WAS FROM THEN ON! I NEVER FELT QUITE SURE I WAS FOOLING DADDY! BUT HE GOT OVER HIS HEART ATTACK WITH AMAZING SPEED AND SEEMED HIS OLD SELF AGAIN!"



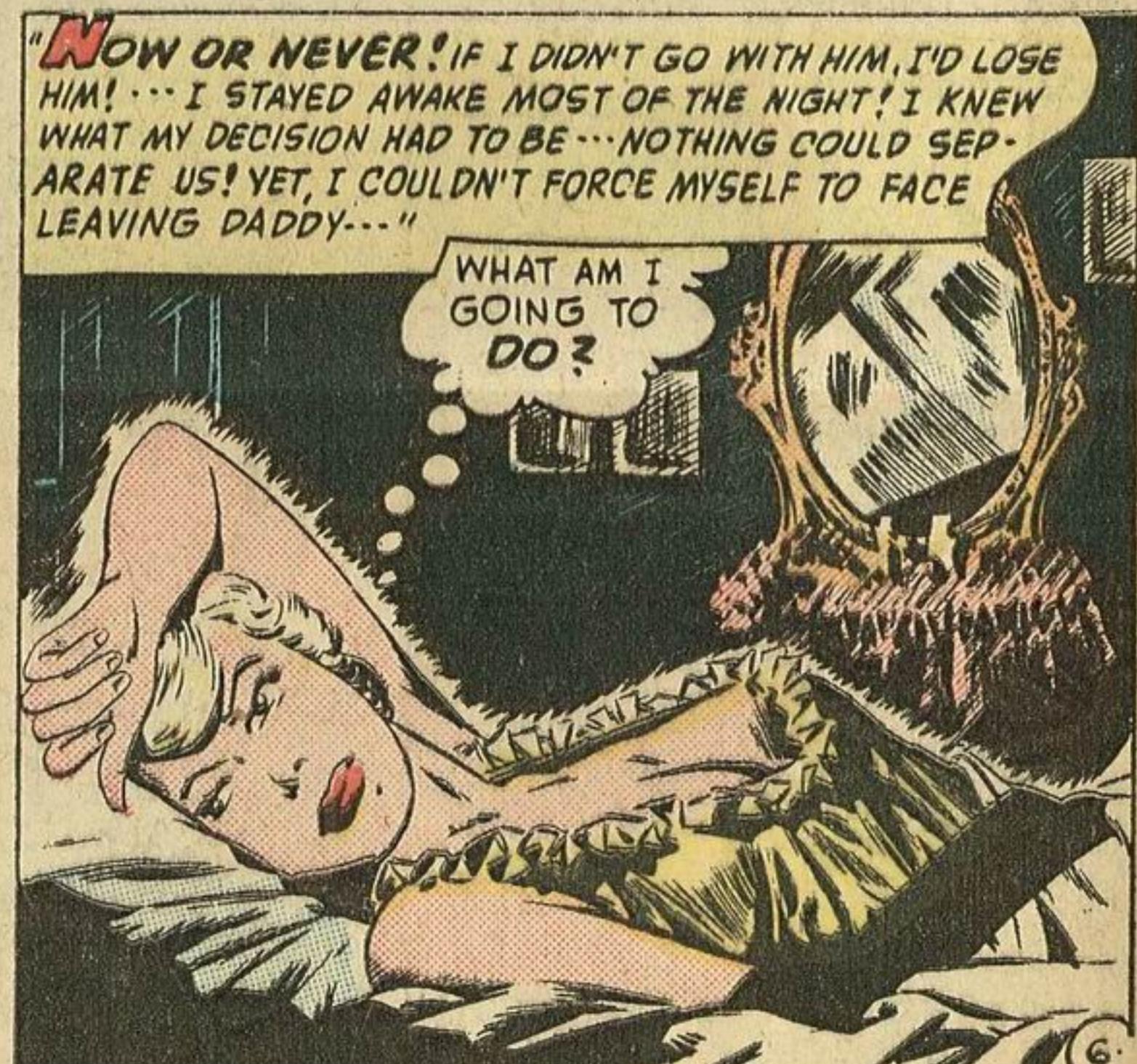
"YES, I KEPT UP MY TENNIS! BUT IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING, I WAS HAPPY... HAPPY TO HAVE FOUND LOVE... REAL LOVE! I LIVED FROM DAY TO DAY, REFUSING TO LOOK AHEAD TO THE SHOW-DOWN I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN HAD TO COME!"



"IT CAME ON THAT LAST AFTERNOON WHEN JIM AND I MET! I KNEW HE HAD SOMETHING TO TELL ME FROM THE EXPRESSION ON HIS FACE..."



"JIM WAS ASKING ME TO MARRY HIM! MARRY HIM! I COULDN'T SPEAK. TO BE WITH JIM FOREVER... TO BE HIS WIFE! I WANTED HIM SO DESPERATELY..."



"ALL MORNING LONG I WAS ALMOST BE-SIDE MYSELF, AND I CAUGHT DADDY WATCHING ME IN A PUZZLED WAY! FINALLY, WHEN HE WENT TO HIS ROOM, I PHONED JIM... MY MIND MADE UP!"

"I'M GOING WITH YOU, DARLING!"

"THAT'S WONDER-FUL!"

"NOW HERE'S WHAT YOU DO... WAIT A MINUTE, IS THE COAST CLEAR?"

"YES, DADDY'S IN HIS ROOM! GO ON, JIM!"

"I DIDN'T KNOW THAT MY FATHER WAS LISTENING OVER THE EXTENSION... LISTENING TO EVERY WORD!"

"I'LL PARK AT THE CORNER OF MAPLE! MEET ME THERE PROMPTLY AT THREE! IS THAT CLEAR, SWEETHEART?"

"I'LL BE THERE, JIM DARLING! NOTHING CAN STOP ME!"

"OKAY! IF YOU DON'T TURN UP, I'LL KNOW YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR MIND!"

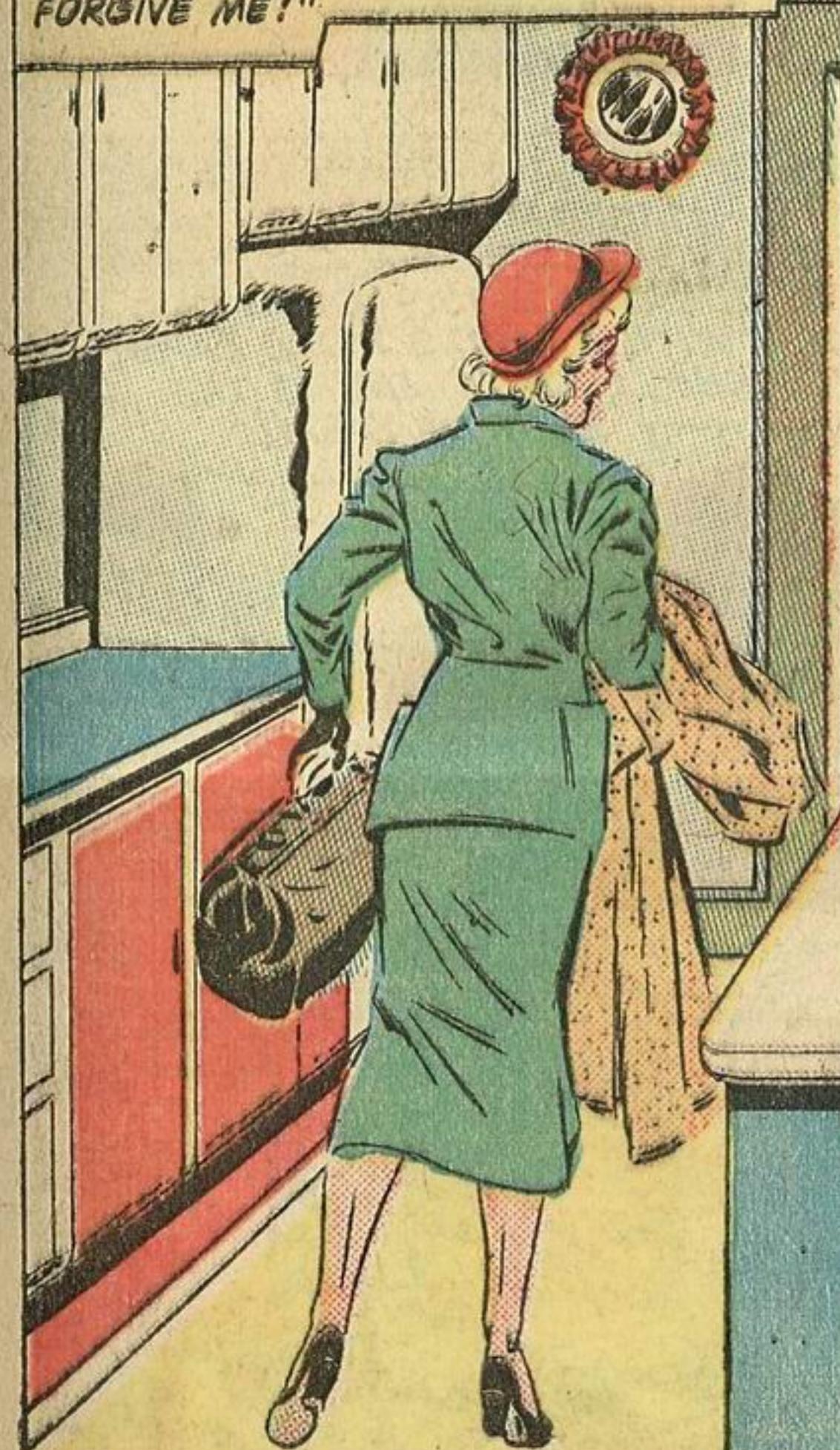
"NOW THAT THE DECISION HAD BEEN MADE, I WAS ANXIOUS TO GET AWAY AS FAST AS POSSIBLE! I PACKED A SMALL BAG, WROTE A NOTE TO DADDY! HE'D BE TERRIBLY HURT... I COULD ONLY HOPE THAT SOME DAY HE'D FORGIVE ME!"

"IT WAS THEN THAT I HEARD A MUFFLED GROAN, FOLLOWED BY A THUD... AS IF SOMEONE HAD FALLEN!"

"I DROPPED MY SUITCASE AND RACED FOR DADDY'S ROOM! HE WAS STRETCHED OUT ON THE FLOOR, EYES CLOSED!"

"RUTH... RUTH... MY HEART..."

"DADDY! DADDY!"



"SOMEHOW I GOT TO THE PHONE, CALLED DR. BLAKE! HE WAS AT OUR HOUSE IN FIVE MINUTES, BENDING OVER DADDY, MAKING A SWIFT EXAMINATION..."

DON'T LET HIM
... DIE, DOCTOR!

HE'S COMING AROUND
... GIVE ME A HAND AND
WE'LL GET HIM ON THE
BED!

"I LOOKED AT MY WATCH... IT WAS FIVE MINUTES PAST
THREE! AT THAT EXACT MOMENT... THE TELEPHONE RANG!"

SO YOU AREN'T
COMING AFTER
ALL!

JIM! THANK GOODNESS
YOU CALLED! I WAS ON
MY WAY, BUT FATHER...

FATHER! ALWAYS FATHER!
OKAY, IF THAT'S THE WAY
YOU WANT IT!

"HE HUNG UP! HE DIDN'T GIVE ME A
CHANCE TO EXPLAIN!"

JIM! LISTEN TO
ME! DADDY HAD
A...

"I PUT DOWN THE PHONE, SHOCKED AND
UNBELIEVING! THEN, GRADUALLY MY
DISMAY TURNED TO ANGER... BLIND,
FURIOUS ANGER!"

IF THAT'S THE
KIND HE IS, I
NEVER WANT
TO SEE HIM
AGAIN!

"IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED, I KNEW BITTER-
NESS! BUT DADDY WAS SOON UP AGAIN, SEEM-
INGLY IN BETTER SPIRITS THAN EVER!"

I'M GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT NOW, RUTH!
EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT!
... I'VE MAPPED OUT QUITE A PROGRAM FOR
YOU! A COUPLE OF SUMMERS OF TOURN-
MENTS, AND YOU'LL BE READY FOR BIG
TIME! FOR FOREST HILLS!

"YOU CAN GO OVER
THE SPORTS RECORDS
FOR WHAT HAPPENED
TO ME DURING THE
NEXT THREE YEARS
... AS FAR AS TENNIS
WAS CONCERNED!
DADDY AND I TRAVEL-
ED FROM TOURNA-
MENT TO TOURNAMENT!
I WORKED HARD AT MY
GAME... POLISHING MY
STROKES AND PRACTIC-
ING... PRACTICING!
BUT AS HARD AS I
TRIED, I COULDN'T
FORGET JIM! I
LEARNED THAT HE
WAS ON THE STAFF
OF A BIG NEW YORK
NEWSPAPER, A
SPORTS REPORTER..."

LISTEN TO THIS, RUTH!... "EVEN THOUGH
RUTH CHALMERS WAS DEFEATED IN THE
FINALS OF THE DUFFERIN TOURNAMENT
TODAY, DON'T SELL THIS YOUNG LADY
SHORT! WITH A LITTLE MORE EXPER-
IENCE, SHE'LL BE TRIMMING THE
BEST OF THEM!"



"BUT ALL THE WRITE-UPS WEREN'T AS FLATTERING... ESPECIALLY WHEN DADDY AND I BEGAN MAKING THE ROUNDS OF THE EASTERN TOURNAMENTS!"

RUTHLESS RUTH BLASTS OPPONENT OFF COURT.

...by Jim Gordon...
RUTH CHALMERS PROVED AGAIN TODAY THAT SHE IS THE PERFECT TENNIS MACHINE AS SHE ADVANCED INTO THE QUARTER FINALS OF THE MECKER CUP MATCHES AT THE EXPENSE OF PRETTY DORIS KAY. DORIS HADN'T A CHANCE AGAINST THE HARD, RELENTLESS HAMMERING FROM RUTHLESS RUTH'S RACQUET...

"BUT FATHER DIDN'T ENTER ME AT FOREST HILLS UNTIL HE WAS SURE I WAS READY! THEN CAME THE DAY WHEN I WALKED OUT ON THE SOO OF THE CELEBRATED STADIUM! I FOUGHT MY WAY THROUGH THE SEMI-FINALS --- RUTHLESSLY!"

YOU WERE MAGNIFICENT, RUTH! NOW ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS WIN THE FINALS TOMORROW!

I'LL WIN, DADDY!



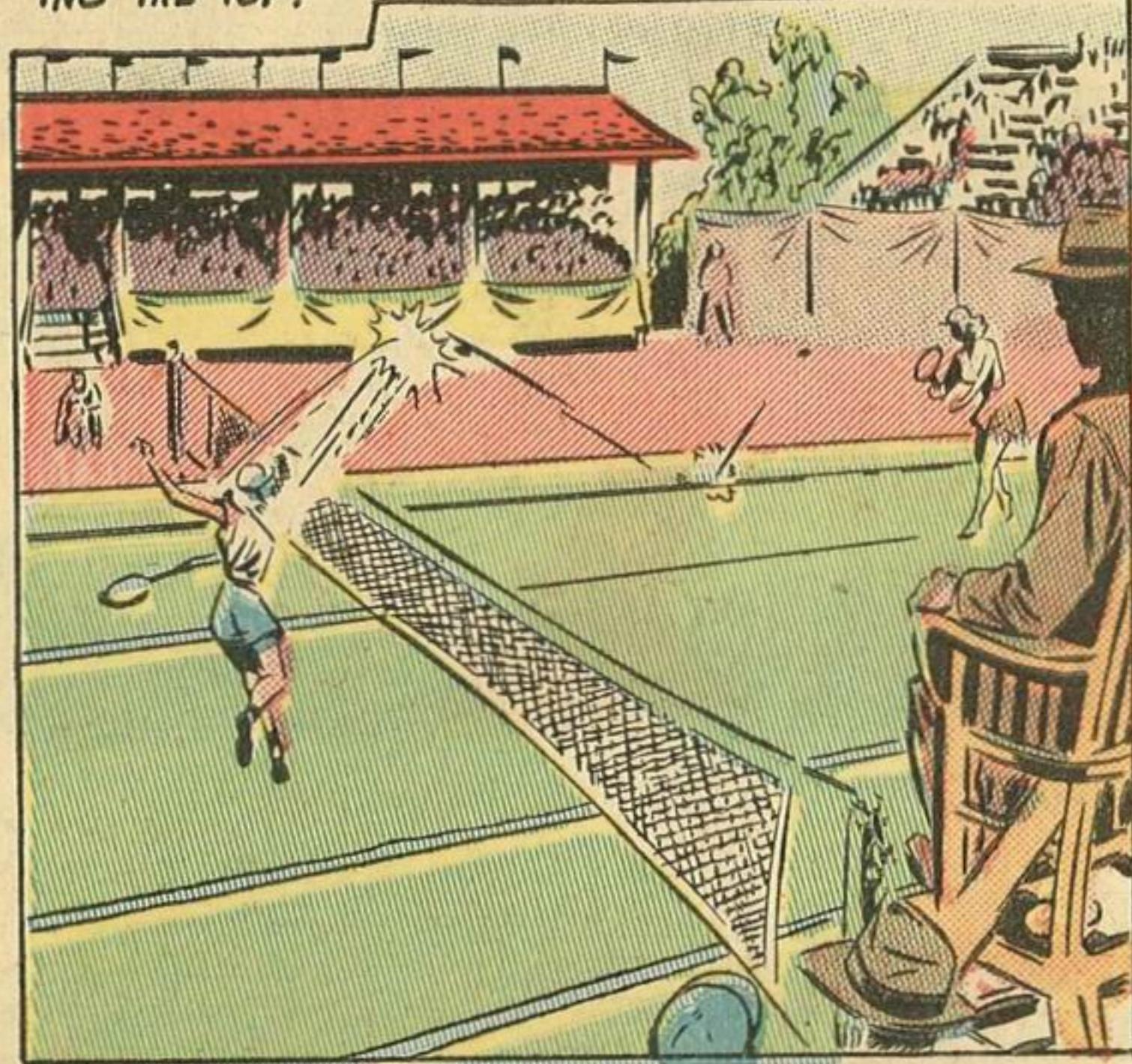
"MY OPPORTUNITY SUDDENLY PRESENTED ITSELF! THE OFFICIALS WERE HOLDING A RECEPTION FOR THE CONTESTANTS AND THE PRESS THAT VERY EVENING..."

I'M GOING TO LOOK IN AT THE RECEPTION, DADDY! I BELIEVE IT'S GOOD POLICY!

YOU'RE RIGHT, RUTH! BUT DON'T STAY LATE... REMEMBER, TOMORROW'S THE BIG DAY!



"THERE WERE OTHER WRITE-UPS EVEN MORE SLASHING... UNDER JIM'S BYLINE! HE WAS GETTING BACK AT ME... HATING ME! BUT HIS WORDS ACTED AS A GOAD! HE CALLED ME RUTHLESS RUTH... WELL, I BECAME RUTHLESS! NOTHING WAS GOING TO STOP ME FROM REACHING THE TOP!"



"BUT WHAT DID JIM WRITE ABOUT THAT SEMI-FINALS MATCH? DID HE PRAISE ME?"

RUTHLESS RUTH WINS AT LOVE... The Game...Positively Not The Emotion!

by Jim Hunter.



HE NEVER FORGETS... HE NEVER MISSES A CHANCE TO KNIFE ME! IF I COULD ONLY GET BACK AT HIM!

"AS SOON AS I ENTERED, I WAS THE CENTER OF A GROUP... MOSTLY REPORTERS..."

HERE'S SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW, MISS CHALMERS! JIM GORDON OF THE NEW YORK SENTINEL!



YES, SHE SHOULD KNOW ME... HOW ABOUT A DANCE, MUSCLES?

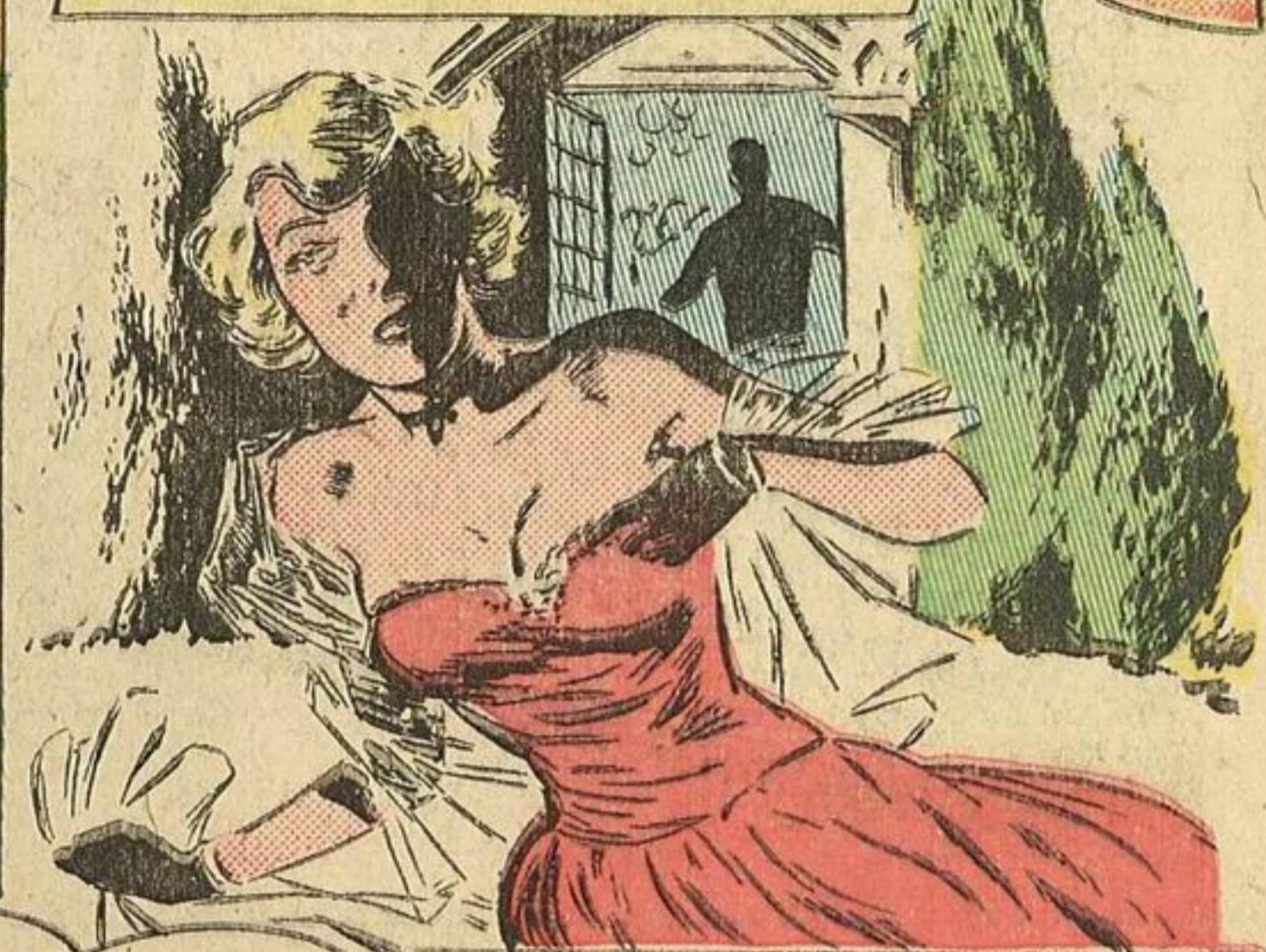


"**J**HAD COME TO TELL JIM OFF... TO SEAR HIM WITH SLASHING WORDS! BUT I COULDN'T SPEAK! NUMBLY I WENT INTO HIS ARMS AND..."

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE THAT LAST DANCE... HASN'T IT?"



"**J**COULDN'T STAND IT! I BROKE AND RAN, TRYING HARD TO KEEP BACK THE SOBS THAT WERE CHOKING ME! THERE WAS NO USE TRYING TO FOOL MYSELF! I STILL LOVED HIM... LOVED HIM!"



RUTH! WHAT ON EARTH IS WRONG?

EVERYTHING'S WRONG! I'M THROUGH WITH TENNIS FOR GOOD! I'M NOT PLAYING TOMORROW!

YOU CAN'T DEFAULT! THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO BE NATIONAL CHAMPION!...

STOP THAT! DR. BLAKE TOLD ME THERE WAS NOTHING ORGANICALLY WRONG WITH YOUR HEART... THAT IT WAS ALL YOUR IMAGINATION!

BUT HE WAS WRONG! YOU DELIBERATELY FADED THOSE ATTACKS TO KEEP ME TIED TO YOU... TO FORCE ME TO BECOME A TENNIS CHAMPION! YOU MADE ME LOSE THE ONE MAN I TRULY LOVED!



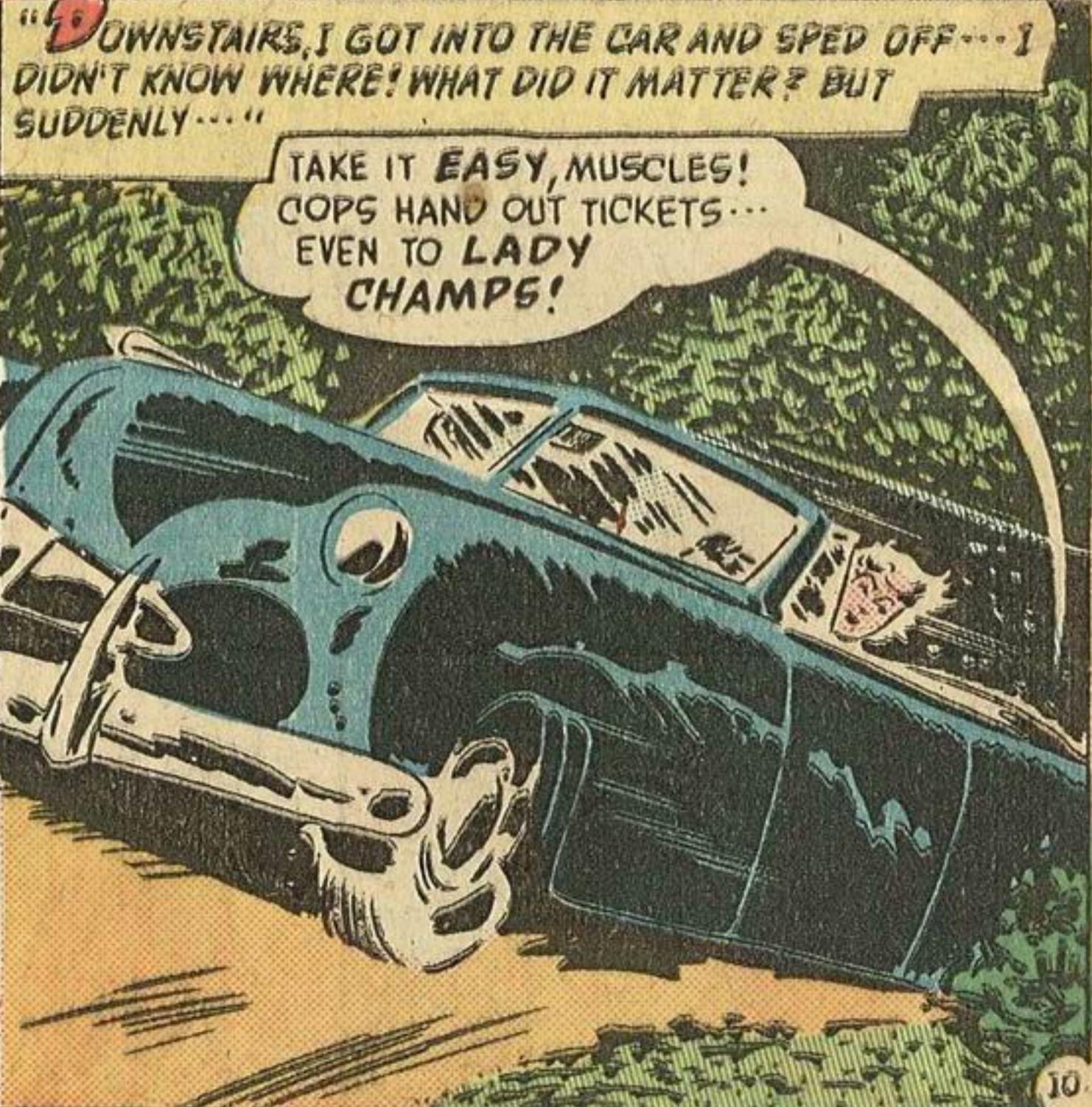
ALL RIGHT... I... I GUESS YOU WIN! I DID USE THOSE HEART ATTACKS TO KEEP YOU WITH ME! NOW I SEE I DID WRONG! PLEASE, FORGIVE ME... AND FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR OLD FATHER, PLAY TOMORROW!

YOU NEVER GIVE UP, DO YOU? WELL, I TOLD YOU I'M THROUGH... AND I AM!



"**D**OWNSTAIRS, I GOT INTO THE CAR AND SPED OFF... I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE! WHAT DID IT MATTER? BUT SUDDENLY..."

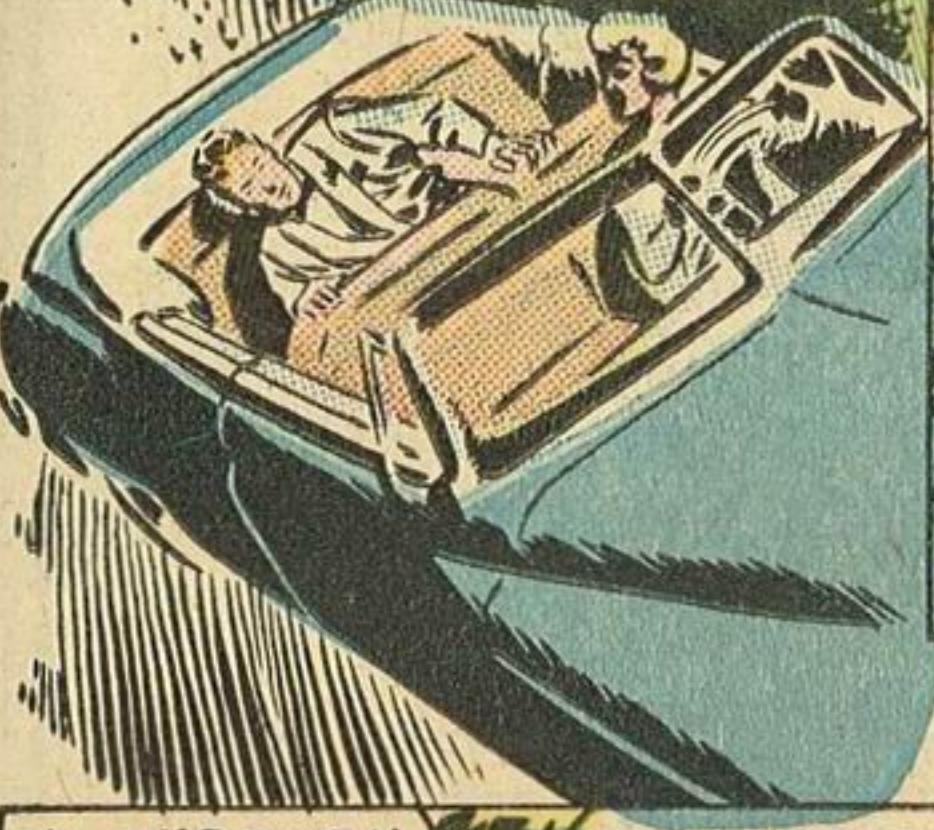
TAKE IT EASY, MUSCLES! COPS HAND OUT TICKETS... EVEN TO LADY CHAMPS!



JIM!

DON'T LOOK SO SHOCKED! YOU SEE, I FOLLOWED YOU FROM THE DANCE TO YOUR HOTEL ROOM! I WAS STANDING OUTSIDE AND I HEARD EVERYTHING... INCLUDING WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT A CERTAIN GUY YOU LOVE! SO I THOUGHT I'D HIDE IN YOUR CAR UNTIL YOU CAME OUT!

I WANTED TO TELL YOU SOMETHING... THAT THE GUY YOU SAID YOU LOVED HAPPENS TO FEEL THE SAME WAY ABOUT YOU... ESPECIALLY NOW THAT YOU'VE GROWN UP!



I'M THROUGH WITH TENNIS, JIM! I NEVER WANT TO HOLD A RACQUET AGAIN!

YOU CAN'T QUIT COLD, MUSCLES! WHEN YOU START SOMETHING, YOU'VE GOT TO FINISH IT! YOU'RE PLAYING IN THE FINALS TOMORROW, SWEETHEART... AND YOU'RE GOING TO WIN!



"I PLAYED... AND I WON! I DON'T BELIEVE I HAD EVER PLAYED SO WELL OR ENJOYED MYSELF SO MUCH! NOTHING COULD'VE STOPPED ME!"

AND AS THE NEW WOMEN'S NATIONAL SINGLES CHAMPION, I PRESENT YOU WITH...



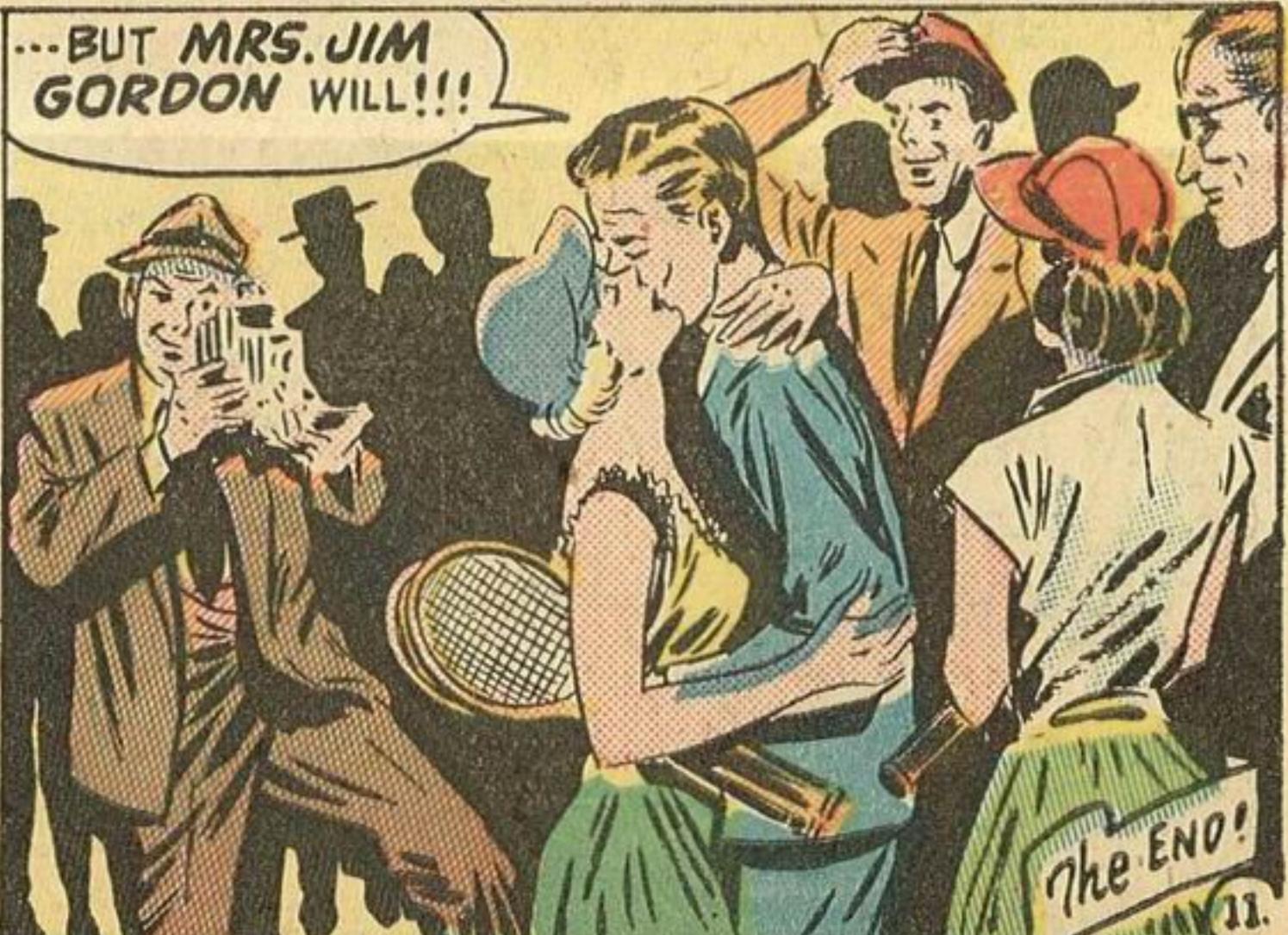
"The reporters came crowding in...."

WILL YOU DEFEND YOUR TITLE NEXT YEAR, MISS CHALMERS?

JUST A MINUTE...
I'LL ANSWER THAT! I CAN STATE DEFINITELY THAT MISS CHALMERS WILL NOT DEFEND HER TITLE...



...BUT MRS. JIM GORDON WILL!!!



The **POWER** of a **WOMAN**

ANNE KNEW SHE was beautiful. Why not? She had the daily evidence of her mirror's reflection, people told her so all the time, in words and glances, and above all, there was the power! Her beauty and charm gave Anne a sort of inner triumph, so that she viewed every man she met as a potential conquest!

"And they *do* enjoy being conquered," she reflected. "Or at least, they seem to! They keep coming back for more punishment all the time!"

She took pleasure in seeing the same old thing happen over and over. She would meet a man. He would be attracted to her. She would allow him to pursue her until the attraction had grown to a deeper feeling. And then, she would turn him down! Another scalp as another warrior bit the dust! And a rising feeling of power and victory!

Even now, as she followed her hostess, acknowledging introductions, Anne could feel appreciative stares centering on her. That man, what was his name, Guy Shayne! Not bad-looking! It might be fun to test her skill on him! She threw him a half-helpless, half-amused glance, as though to say, "I can't help being swamped by all these people, but I'd much rather be with *you*!"

He was at her side, as if in direct answer to her unspoken invitation. "Dance?" He was very good-looking, now that Anne could observe him more closely. There was a firm set to his jaw that she rather liked. And his hand on her back sent an unaccustomed tingle along her spine.

Funny, how two people who have never met before seem to become a twosome! It was that way with Guy and

Anne. They danced and talked and had their coffee on a small loveseat for two away from the rest of the guests. Anne could see what was happening. She had seen it before, that change from friendly interest to something intensely emotional.

Guy took their coffee cups and set them down on a tray. "Terrace?" he suggested. Together, they walked through the long French doors into the fresh night air. Anne looked up at the sky, alive with glitter. He was not looking at the sky, but at her.

"You're beautiful, Anne," he said. His hands reached for her shoulders to draw her to him.

This, too, was old to Anne. She knew just how to handle men. "Don't *please*," she said, her voice pleading, but her lips smiling, to show that she didn't find him unattractive despite the fact that she was putting him off.

But his hands tightened on her shoulders. This was different. Men usually obeyed when Anne spoke. "I wish you wouldn't!" she said.

"Anne!" Guy's voice was strong and firm, not tremulous and uncertain as she had expected. "I've been watching you. You're playing a pretty dangerous game. Not *all* men will stand for it... being led to romance and then being shut out. Some day, you might meet a man who won't take 'no' for an answer...a man like *me*!"

She was in his arms then, and being kissed. Taut, rigid, she sought to free herself, to reclaim the supremacy she had always had. But gradually, her arms went about his neck, her lips answered his, and she thought as she lost herself dreamily in their kiss, "I've lost my power, but I don't care... *for I've also lost my heart!*"

MR. & MRS. ROMANCE!

LEAN BACK! YOU'RE CUTTING
OFF MY PROFILE!

WHY, YOU CONCEITED
HAM! THEY WANT TO
PHOTOGRAPH ME!

"TO MILLIONS OF PEOPLE, WE WERE
ROMANCE! THE WAY WE LOOKED
INTO EACH OTHER'S EYES, OUR
HANDS CLINGING, OUR LIPS ON
THE VERGE OF A KISS... EVEN
OUR NAMES SPELLED ROMANCE
TO OTHERS!"

"IT WAS THE
KIND OF DAY
THE CALIFORNIA
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE
RAVES ABOUT...
SUN OVER
HOLLYWOOD!
AND THERE
I WAS,
SUSIE JONES,
YOUNG,
PRETTY,
TALENTED...
AND MISER-
ABLE!"

SPANISH HACIENDA MOTEL and ROOMING HOUSE

MRS. GODWIN, PROP.

YOU DISCOURAGE
TOO EASY, SUSIE!
YOU NEED
PATIENCE!

IF I WAIT LONG
ENOUGH, I MIGHT
GET A GRAND-
MOTHER ROLE!
NO, MRS. GODWIN,
I WON'T WAIT!

"I'D TELL MY AGENT I WAS QUITTING!
WHY SHOULD I BECOME ONE OF THE
HOPELESS HOPEFULS, THE NOBODIES
OF FILMDOOM?"

STUTZ, I'VE
COME TO TELL
YOU THAT I'M
LEAV---

SHH! NO, NOT YOU, MR.
FARRELL! AND IF YOU
THINK I'M NOT HANDLING
BIG-TIME PEOPLE,
GUESS WHO JUST
WALKED IN... MISS
SUSAN JONES!

"STUTZ SAID MY NAME AS THOUGH I WERE THE QUEEN OF THE MOVIE INDUSTRY! HE WAS UP TO SOMETHING..."

HONEY, YOU'RE PRACTICALLY IN! I'VE ALMOST SOLD YOU TO SUPER-PIX!

"PRACTICALLY!" "ALMOST!" YOU'RE SWEET, STUTZ, BUT IT'S NO USE! I'M GOING HOME!

HOME! HONEY, YOU CAN'T! NOT AFTER THE PUBLICITY ANGLE I JUST DREAMED UP! YOU'LL BE A STAR... I GUARANTEE IT! NOW WHERE'S THAT PHONE NUMBER... DAN DEXTER... OH, HERE IT IS!

I WARN YOU, STUTZ, I'M NOT CHANGING MY MIND!

"BUT I DID! HIS CRAZY ENTHUSIASM AND PROMISES KEPT ME IN THE OFFICE UNTIL DAN DEXTER ARRIVED! DAN WAS A YOUNG HOPEFUL, TOO! I'D SEEN HIM IN CASTING OFFICES, BUT WE'D NEVER REALLY MET... UNTIL STUTZ BROUGHT US TOGETHER..."

WHAT IS THIS ANGLE, STUTZ?

DAN DEXTER, SUSAN JONES... NOW YOU KNOW EACH OTHER! GET THIS! I'M MAKING YOU THE MOST GLAMOROUS COUPLE IN THE COUNTRY... EVERYBODY'S ROMANTIC IDEAL! YOU'LL HOLD HANDS, WALK TOGETHER, DANCE, SWOON! YOU'LL BE LOVE'S YOUNG DREAM... COME TRUE!

WAIT A MINUTE...

OH, YEAH, I ALMOST FOR-GOT-- DON'T GET MARRIED! PEOPLE ARE FUNNY-- NUTS FOR ROMANCE, BUT WHEN THOSE WEDDING BELLS CHIME...

LOOK! I HAPPEN TO BE A SERIOUS ACTOR! I'M NOT TEAMING UP WITH SOME PUBLICITY-MAD DAME--

"INFURIATED, I VOWED I'D NEVER COOPERATE... NOT WITH THAT MASS OF CONCEIT!"

THIS ISN'T MY IDEA! IN FACT, I LOATHE IT! YOU'LL HAVE TO GET ANOTHER JULIET FOR YOUR ROMEO, STUTZ... I'M GOING HOME!

"BUT STUTZ COULD CHARM BIRDS OUT OF TREES WHEN HE LIKED..."

YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIKE EACH OTHER, KIDS... JUST ACT LIKE YOU DO! I'M FOOTIN' THE BILLS, 'CAUSE IT'LL BE WORTH IT!

"IT WAS THE TYPICALLY WILD SCHEME OF A HOLLYWOOD AGENT! DAN DEXTER AND I BECAME A TEAM AND FOR WEEKS, ALL WE DID WAS GIVE A SWELL IMITATION OF LOVERS!"

DON'T LOOK NOW, BUT YOUR SLIP'S SHOWING!

YOU'VE GOT A FUNNY-LOOKING SMUDGE ON YOUR NOSE!

I'D LIKE TO BE HOME WITH A GOOD BOOK RIGHT NOW!

HOW LONG YOU TOOK THE IS THIS WORDS OUT OF (YAWN!) MY MOUTH! TO GO ON?

AT LEAST WE WON'T HAVE TO TALK TO EACH OTHER UNDERWATER!

"YES, THE PICTURE WAS ROMANTIC, BUT NOT THE WORDS! DAN DEXTER AND I CONSIDERED EACH OTHER NECESSARY EVILS!"

"PIXIE WAS OUR SIGNAL FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS OR PIX-MEN! THE MOMENT ONE SHOWED UP, WE WENT INTO OUR ACT..."

STUTZ MUST HAVE BEEN CRAZY WHEN HE DREAMED THIS UP! I--

UH-OH! PIXIE!

FLASH!

TO YOU, LOVELY!

HOLD THAT... THANKS!



"CRAZY OR NOT, THE IDEA BEGAN TO CATCH ON! OUR PICTURES WERE PRINTED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, WITH SOME GUSHY WORDS ABOUT IDEAL LOVE, AND PEOPLE WERE TALKING ABOUT US! STUTZ WAS ELATED..."

WE'RE GONNA MAKE IT, KIDS! IT'S GONNA PAY OFF! GUESS WHO JUST CALLED ME!

I GIVE UP! WHO?

ONLY VIEW MAGAZINE, THAT'S WHO! THEY WANNA DO A BIG PICTURE SPREAD ON YOU TWO... SOMETHING CALLED "A TOUR WITH ROMANCE!" IS THAT A BREAK, OR ISN'T IT? GET LOTS'A SLEEP, YOU GOTTA LOOK GREAT FOR THE PIX!



"EARLY THE NEXT MORNING, WE STARTED OUR JOB, WITH A CREW OF TWO PHOTOGRAPHERS, A MAKE-UP MAN AND STUTZ, ISSUING ORDERS LIKE A GENERAL..."

TAKE 'EM IN SILHOUETTE AN' THEN SHOOT THROUGH THOSE LEAVES... AN' WHAT'LL WE USE FOR A CANDID? LET'S SEE NOW... I GOT IT!

A BIG KISS!



"KISS? I HADN'T BARGAINED FOR THAT! WHY, IT WAS RIDICULOUS! DAN AND I LOOKED AT EACH OTHER UNCOMFORTABLY..."

WELL, WHAT'RE YOU WAITIN' FOR? WE'RE ALL SET UP... GO AHEAD! KISS!

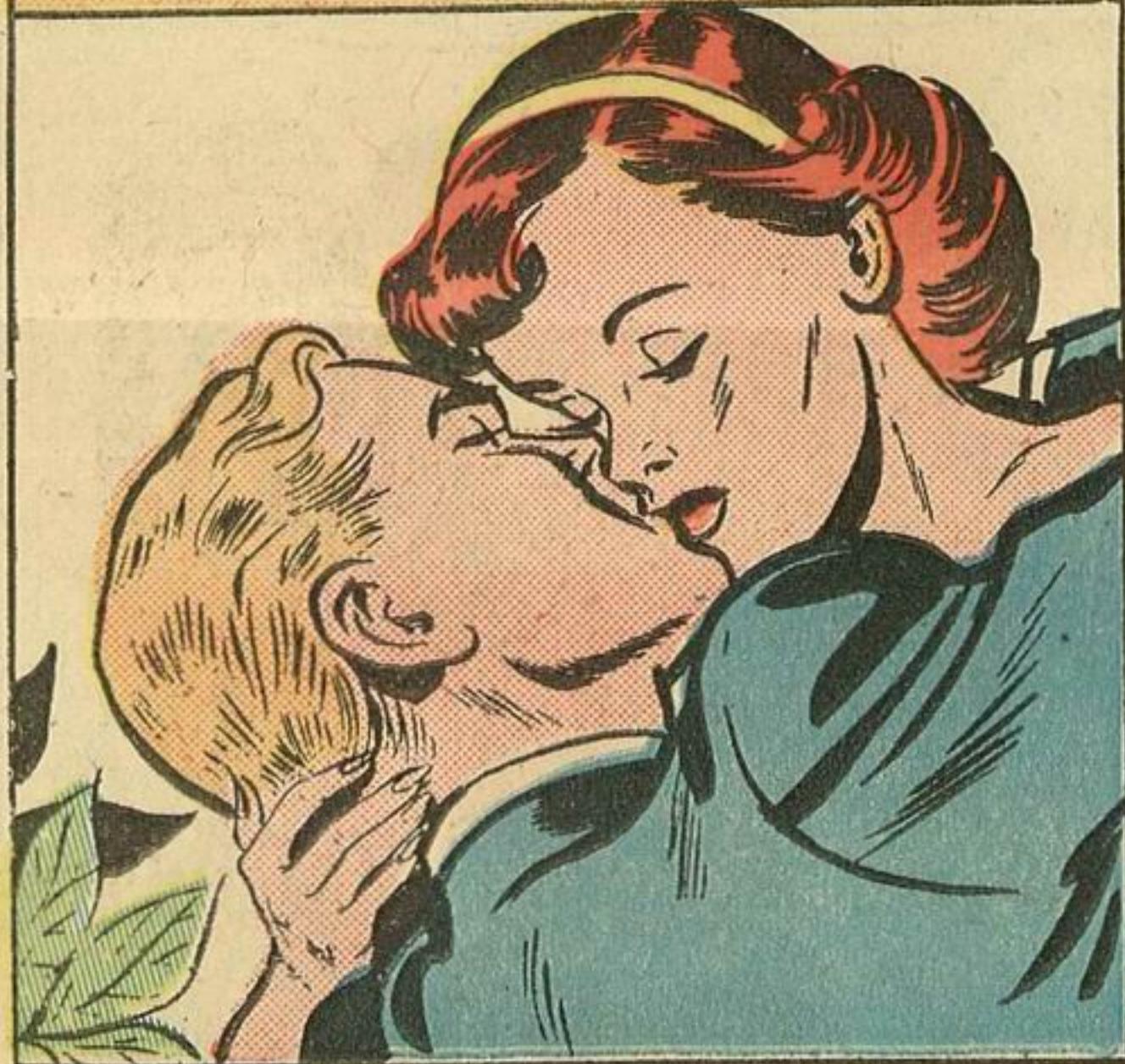
BUT...



"WITH A CREW OF PEOPLE WAITING, WHAT COULD WE DO? UNHAPPILY, I WENT INTO DAN'S UNWILLING ARMS, AND..."

"... I STAYED THERE! HIS KISS, AT FIRST AN IMPERSONAL TOUCH THAT MEANT NOTHING, DEEPENED AND DEEPENED UNTIL I WAS LOST IN IT, LOST IN HIS ARMS, LOST IN... LOVE!"

CUT! CUT! WE GOT ENOUGH SHOTS! OH... I GET IT!



"WE WERE BOTH TOO SHAKEN TO LAUGH, THOUGH IT WAS A JOKE! HERE, WE'D BEEN ACTING LIKE SWEET-HEARTS AND HATING IT... AND NOW... THE ECSTATIC HAPPINESS OF REAL LOVE!"

SUSIE, THIS IS ONE PART I'M REALLY LIVING!

I... I KNOW, DAN... ME, TOO!

"UP UNTIL THAT KISS, OUR MEETINGS HAD BEEN NOTHING BUT BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS! NOW, WE COULDN'T WAIT TO BE TOGETHER... AND WE DIDN'T HAVE TO ACT ROMANTIC!"

I LOVE YOU, I LOVE YOU, I LOVE...

WILL YOU STOP SO I CAN SAY SOMETHING? IT'S JUST... I LOVE YOU!



"DAN'S EYES DARKENED! SUDDENLY, HE WAS SERIOUS..."

SUSIE, I DON'T CARE WHAT STUTZ SAID ABOUT NOT GETTING MARRIED! I'VE GOT TO MARRY YOU! AND YOU...? OF COURSE, DARLING! WHAT DOES HE KNOW ABOUT LOVE?



WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT A LITTLE WHILE, BABY... UNTIL I GET A CONTRACT! THEN... A COTTAGE... YOU AND ME ALONE... TOGETHER!

A RANCH-HOUSE, DAN! WITH OUR OWN LITTLE GARDEN AND... AND... OH, YOU WILL GET AN OFFER... SOON!



"BUT THE JOKE WASN'T OVER! VERY EARLY THE NEXT MORNING, MY LANDLADY CALLED ME TO THE PHONE..."

"HIS CRAZY SCHEME HAD WORKED! NOW DAN AND I COULD BE MARRIED! I FUMBLED FOR SOME CHANGE... FORGETTING I WAS IN MY HOUSECOAT!"

STUTZ! WHO CAN SLEEP? WHAT'RE YOU DOING UP AT THIS HOUR? LISTEN, SUSIE... SOMEONE AT SUPER-PIX SAW THAT SPREAD IN VIEW MAGAZINE AND WANTS YOU FOR A MOVIE!



MRS. GODWIN, LEND ME A DIME... I'VE GOT TO CALL DAN! I CAN'T WAIT TO TELL HIM!

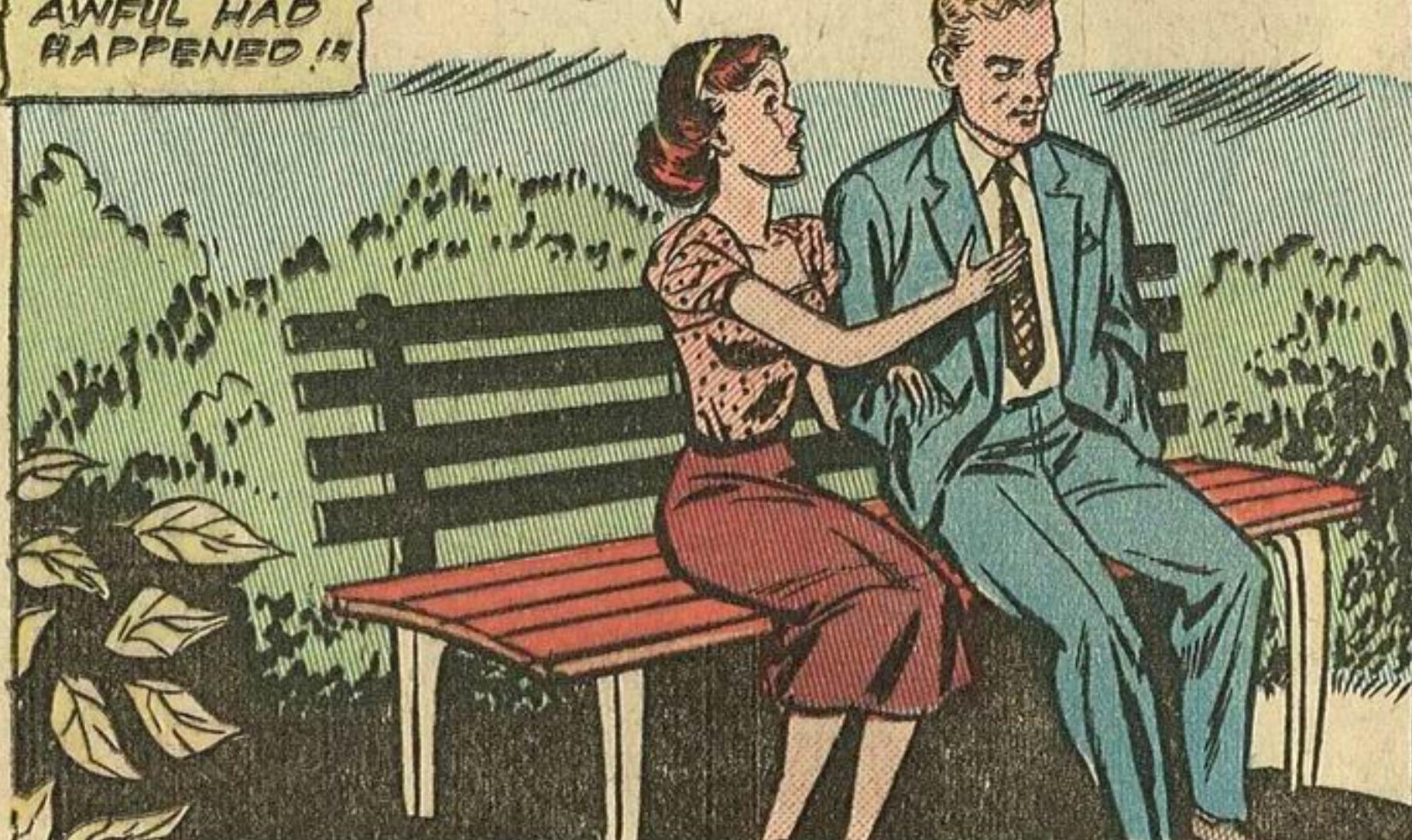


"HE MET ME IN
A LITTLE PARK
NEAR MY HOUSE!
DAN WAS
WORRIED...
AFRAID
SOMETHING
AWFUL HAD
HAPPENED!"

NO, DAN, IT'S WONDERFUL
NEWS! SUPER-PIX
WANTS TO SIGN ME...
AND WE CAN HAVE
OUR COTTAGE AND
OUR GARDEN AND...

NO!

WHAT DO YOU TAKE ME FOR, SUSIE? I SAID
WE'D GET MARRIED WHEN I GOT A CONTRACT...
WHEN I GOT A JOB! OR WERE YOU THINKING
OF ME AS THE
HOUSEKEEPER?



"HOW STUPID I'D BEEN, NOT TO FORESEE THAT
HE'D BE HURT! I TRIED TO COAX HIM, TO WOO
HIM, TO MAKE HIM SEE THINGS MY WAY..."

DARLING, WHAT DIFFERENCE
DOES IT MAKE? I'D
RATHER YOU'D
GOTTEN
THE JOB,
BUT--

TAKE YOUR
ARMS AWAY,
SUSIE!

"MY HEART
STARTED
TO THUMP,
LIKE A
GREAT
DRUM
THAT
BEATS
OUT A
SIGNAL OF
DISASTER..."

THERE MAY BE A NICER WAY TO SAY
THIS, SUSIE, BUT... WE'RE THROUGH!

YOU'LL BE A STAR, LIVING IN
ANOTHER WORLD, WHILE I KEEP
APPLYING AT CASTING
OFFICES! GOODBYE,

SUSIE!



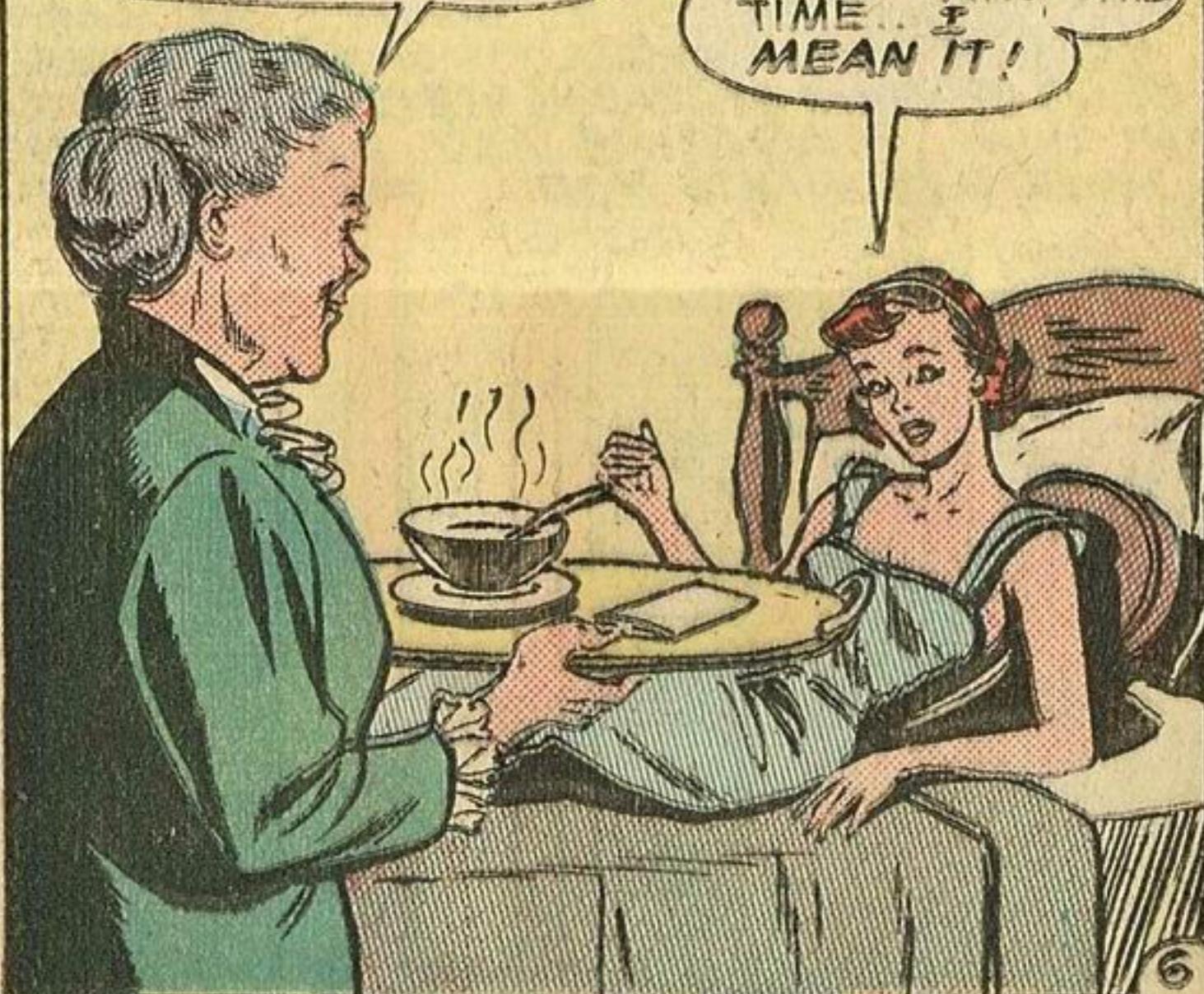
"HOW COULD THINGS HAVE CHANGED SO? DAYS OF BLISS
BECAME DAYS OF TORMENT, MY NIGHTS WERE SLEEP-
LESS... AND I WAS FILLED WITH A TERRIBLE
EMPTINESS... A NAGGING LONELINESS..."

I MADE YOU
SOME SOUP...
YOU HAVEN'T
EATEN FOR
DAYS!

MRS. GODWIN, REMEMBER THAT
MORNING, LONG AGO, WHEN I
WAS GOING TO LEAVE
HOLLYWOOD?



YES, DEAR. YOU WERE DIS- I'VE JUST MADE
COURAGED ABOUT YOUR A BIGGER
CAREER! BUT THAT'S DECISION... THE
ALL PAST NOW, AND... BIGGEST OF MY
LIFE! AND THIS
TIME... I
MEAN IT!



"STUTZ YELPED WILDLY WHEN HE HEARD ME... BUT I WOULDN'T GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO TALK, TO ARGUE ME OUT OF MY HEART'S CHOICE..."



"I HUNG UP, UNABLE TO FINISH... TO SAY THAT I WAS LEAVING MY HEART BEHIND, IN THE POSSESSION OF A MAN WHO DIDN'T WANT IT! IF I'D ONLY KNOWN THAT AT THAT MOMENT..."

"SO YOU'RE GETTING A CONTRACT WITH EPIC FILMS, DAN... A FAT ONE! AND YOU'LL BE GETTING GOOD, JUICY ROLES, OR ELSE--

THAT... THAT WAS SUSIE, WASN'T IT? HOW... HOW IS SHE?"

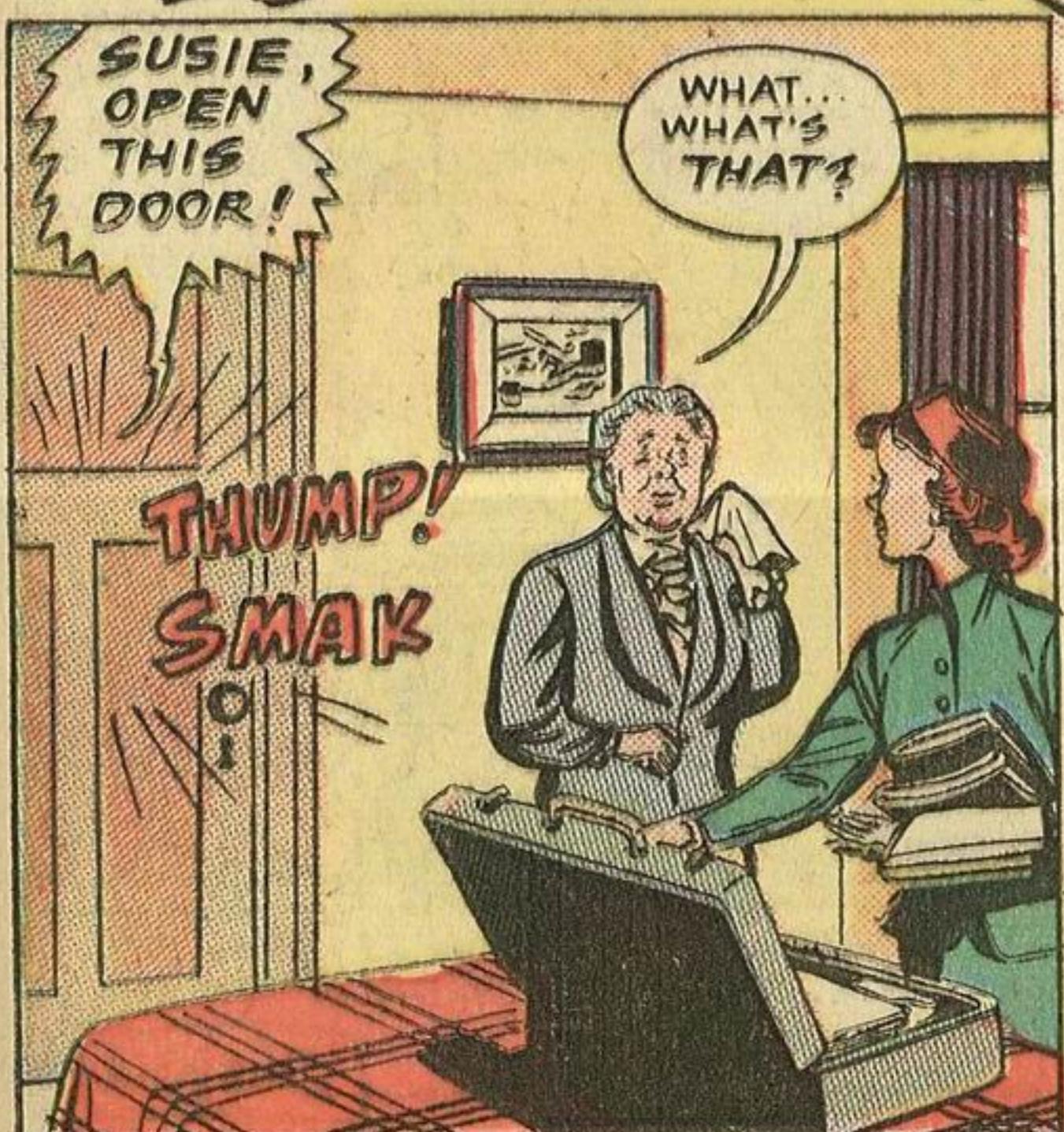


"WOMEN! I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND 'EM! FIRST SHE TEARS HER HAIR OUT FOR A CAREER IN PICTURES! AND NOW SHE CALLS TO SAY SHE AIN'T BUYIN' IT! SHE'S LEAVIN' TOWN!"



"YEAH, WOMEN ARE... DANNY! WHERE YA GOIN'? WE GOTTA TALK CONTRACTS! IT'S YOUR FUTURE!"

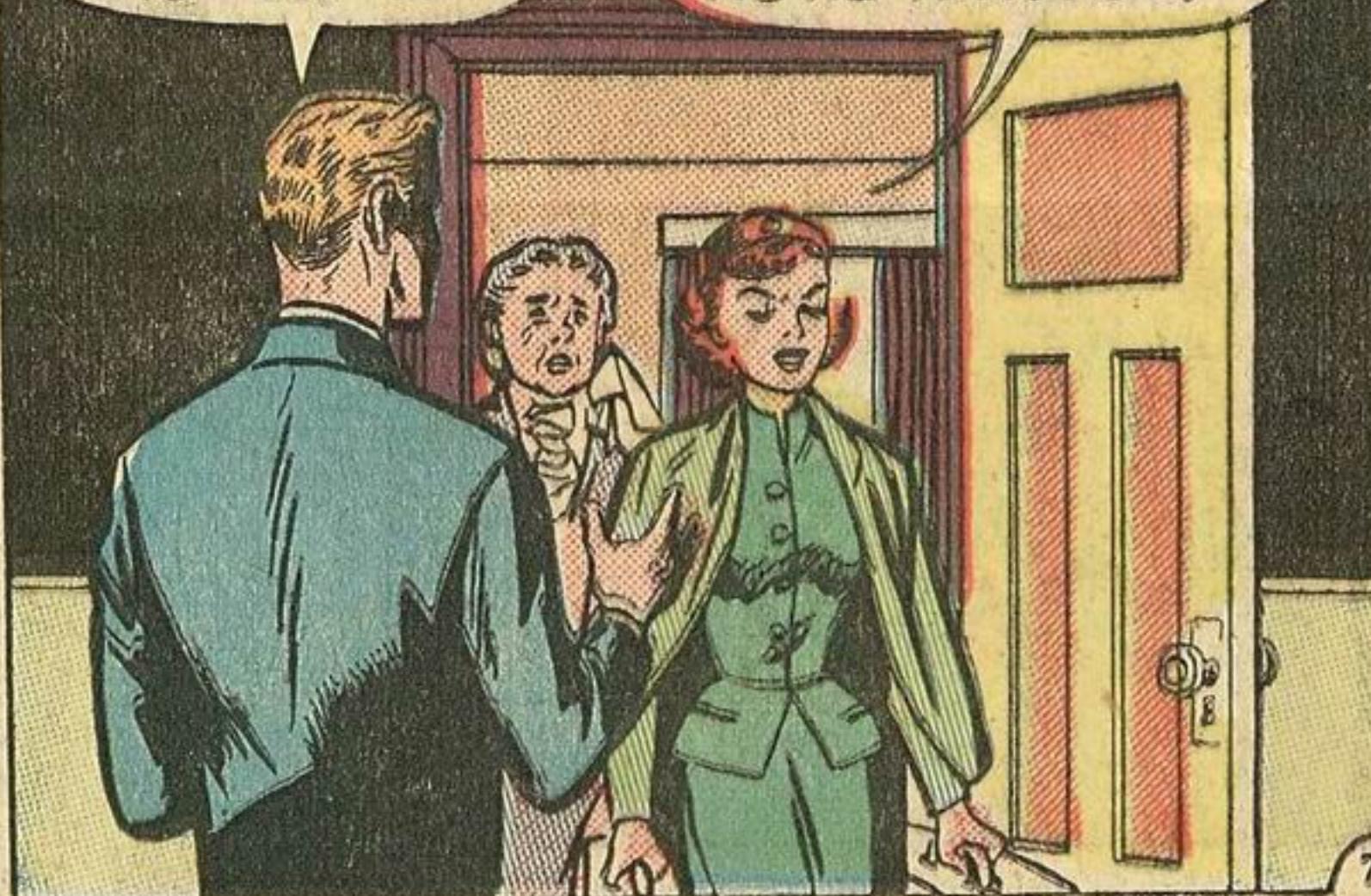
"LATER, STUTZ! AND YOU'RE WRONG... I'M GOING TO SEE MY FUTURE NOW!"



"HASTILY, I SHUT MY SUITCASE AND KISSED MRS. GODWIN AND LIFTED MY CHIN HIGH! IF DAN DIDN'T WANT MY LOVE, HE NEEDN'T SEE MY PAIN..."

"SUSIE, LISTEN TO ME... I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU--

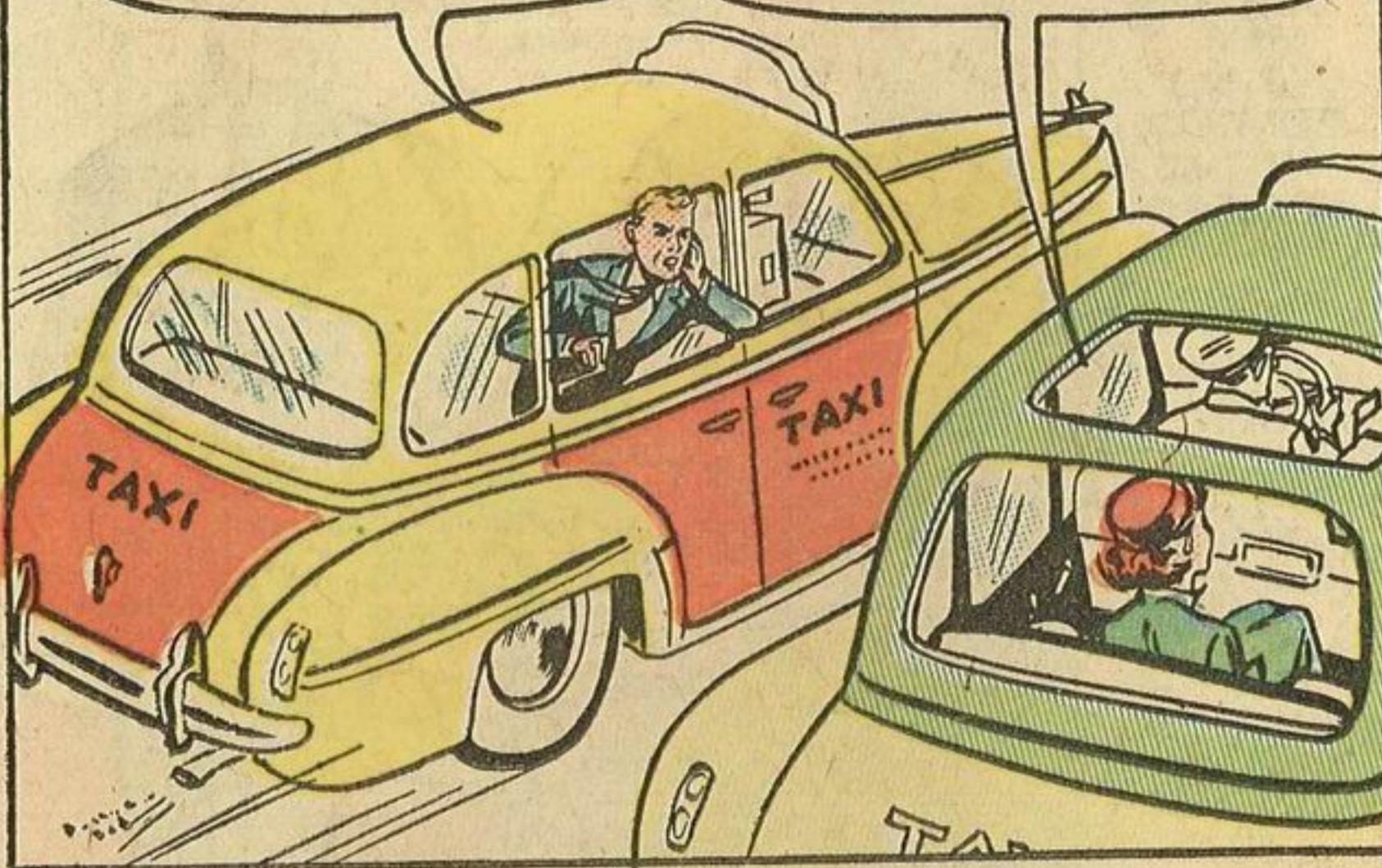
"I CAN ONLY QUOTE YOU AT THIS POINT WE'RE THROUGH!"



"ALL THE WAY TO THE STATION, HE FOLLOWED ME, YELLING FROM HIS TAXI UNTIL MY TAUT NERVES WERE READY TO SNAP..."

SUSIE, IF YOU'LL ONLY LET ME CATCH UP WITH YOU...

DRIVER, WILL YOU PLEASE TRY TO GET AHEAD OF THAT CAB... FAR AHEAD!



"HE SHOOK ME SO HARD THAT MY TEETH CHATTERED! I WAS ABOUT TO SCREAM WHEN SUDDENLY... A STRANGELY FAMILIAR VOICE SOUNDED NEARBY..."

I TELL YOU, MR. FARRELL, THEY'RE THE SYMBOL OF ROMANCE! WAIT TILL YOU SEE 'EM IN PERSON!



A TEAM! MR. FARRELL, YOU'RE A GENIUS! HEAR THAT, KIDS? NO ONE EVER THOUGHT OF USING YOU TOGETHER! YOU'LL BE MR. AND MISS ROMANCE!



"WHEN HE BOARDED THE TRAIN, TOO... MY NERVES DID SNAP! I WAS HYSTERICAL... LOVING HIM, HATING HIM... ...WANTING TO GO... TO STAY..."

NOW STAND STILL A MINUTE AND LISTEN!

IF YOU DON'T LEAVE, I'LL RING FOR THE PORTER AND HAVE YOU THROWN OFF!



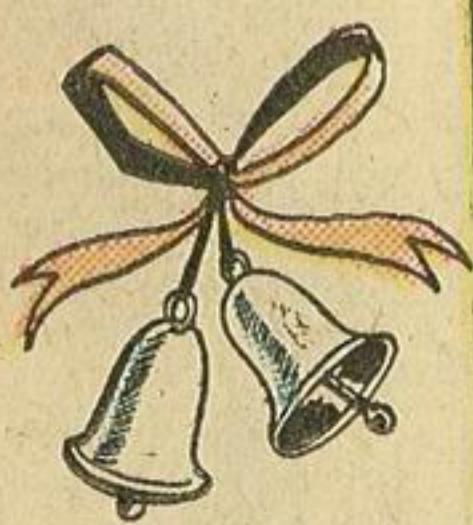
"AUTOMATICALLY, I WENT INTO DAN'S ARMS, IN CASE THE MAN WITH STUTZ SHOULD TURN OUT TO BE A PHOTOGRAPHER! HIS LIPS WERE ON MINE AND MY HEART MELTED COMPLETELY..."

SEE WHAT I MEAN? LOVE-BIRDS! NEVER A CROSS WORD...

ALWAYS BILLING AND COOING! HMM... I MIGHT START 'EM OFF AS A TEAM WITH A FIVE YEAR CONTRACT--



"DAN STOPPED KISSING ME JUST LONG ENOUGH TO ANSWER STUTZ BEFORE HE TOOK ME INTO HIS ARMS AGAIN... INTO OUR OWN PRIVATE WORLD OF LOVE..."



"HE SAID... 'NO, WE WON'T! WE'LL BE MR. AND MRS. ROMANCE!"

The End

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turesque Mexican scenes hand-
embroidered in colorful wool thread.

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THE LADY'S A Liar

IT WASN'T A question of simply wanting a job, but of *needing* one! That was why she returned Thomas B. Shaw's inquiring look squarely as she replied, "Oh, yes, Mr. Shaw, I'm married!" Only the faintest trace of a blush gave testimony to the fact that Sheila was telling a lie.

Well, how was she to know in advance? She'd applied for a job as housekeeper to one Thomas B. Shaw, envisioning an old brownstone house with a crotchety old man inside it...a man who kept fish, perhaps, and lived chiefly on cup custards. Her first surprise came when she saw the house, an elegant, low-slung ranch house of fieldstone and redwood.

Her second surprise came when she saw Mr. Shaw, himself! Tall, young, handsome with his dark coloring that accented the clear gray of his eyes. Right now, those eyes were regarding her thoughtfully. "You've got all the qualifications;" their owner was saying, "but I...er...didn't expect anyone as...well..." There was admiration in his face as his voice trailed off, admiration for Sheila's fresh beauty, heightened by her blushes. "You see, I keep bachelor quarters here, and it wouldn't be proper...you understand! So you *are* married!"

"Yes!" Sheila underscored the lie firmly. She *did* need that job!

"If you don't mind my asking, your husband...?"

Sheila thought quickly. Her husband! *Who* could he be? Someone who need never turn up, of course, but someone plausible. "He...he's a steward on a ship!" she answered. "You know, always away somewhere!"

"What ship?"

Sheila said the first name that came to her frantically searching mind. "The S. S. Devonia."

"I see. Well, shall we say you're hired? The maid will show you to your quarters and you can look around and get to know the place."

The days that followed seemed to melt into glorious weeks for Sheila. The beautiful house took hold of her until she could not imagine ever having lived elsewhere. And its owner... Sheila's heart did strange things whenever she saw him or heard his voice.

"It's only that I'm nervous," she told herself at first. But the truth would not stay buried forever, and soon Sheila had to admit to herself that it was a very special kind of nervousness...the nervousness of love!

"Oh, why did I ever get into this thing?" she reproached herself a thousand times. "How can I stay on here, where every day is a torment to me?"

The end was inevitable, and though Sheila tried to stave it off, she knew she would have to leave! It was impossible to stay any longer, feeling as she did. Yes, she would go as soon as possible!

Sheila actually trembled as she faced her employer, her voice stumbling over the words, "For personal reasons, I...I must resign!"

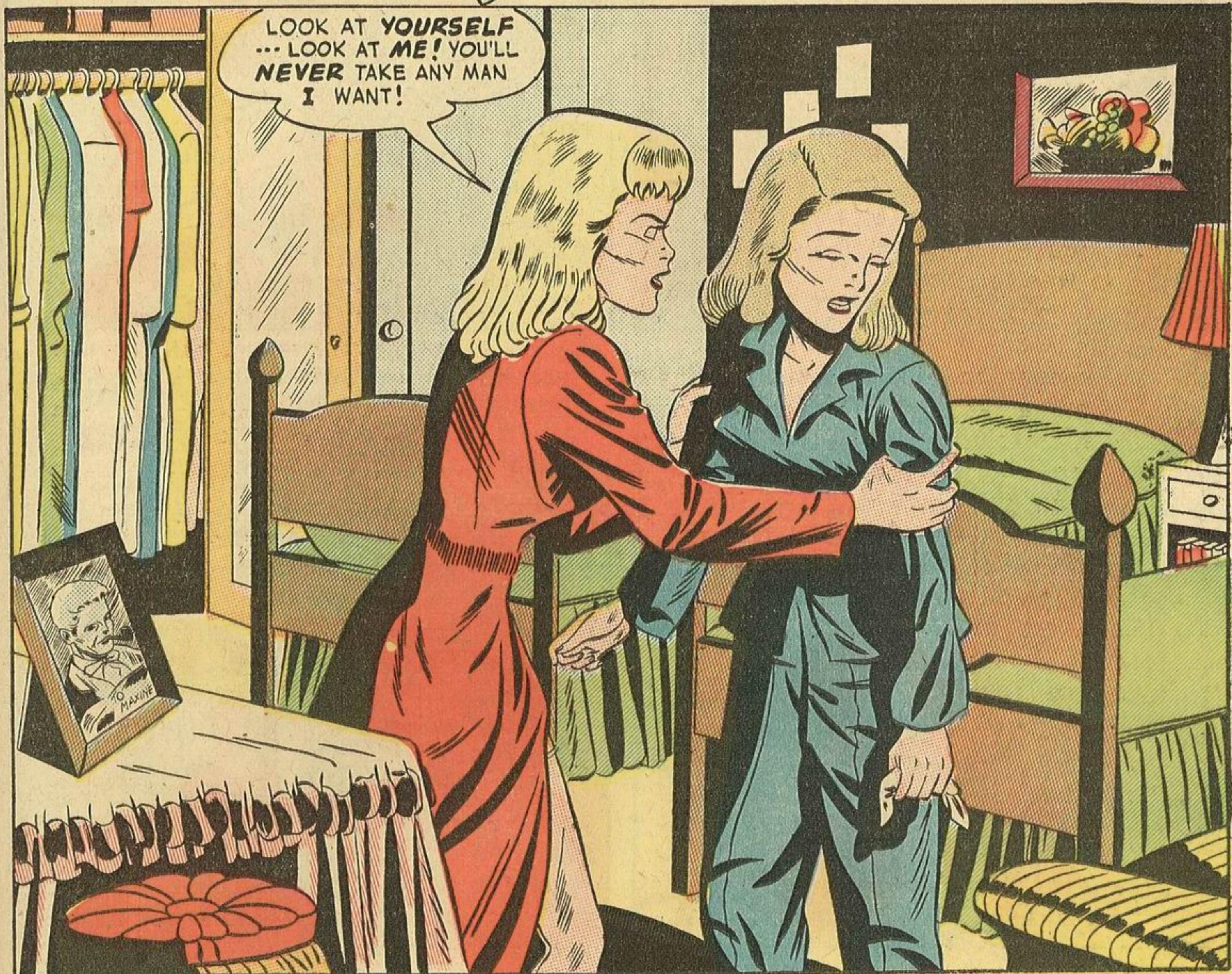
"Must you...darling?" He had her in his arms, so suddenly that she gasped. And then, before his lips met hers, "Must you?"

"How *can* you?" She pulled free, hurt pride bringing tears to her eyes. So *this* was the kind of man he was! Thinking she was married...

"Darling, stop it!" Again she was in his arms. "The S. S. Devonia was scrapped for junk years ago, as any good liar would know. And it's all right for me to kiss a girl who's *going* to be married...to *me*!"

"TWO SISTERS, LOVING THE SAME MAN... WANTING HIM! HOW COULD I HOPE TO WIN HIM AWAY FROM HER... I, SECOND FIDDLE, MOUSEY, COLORLESS, BACK-SEAT

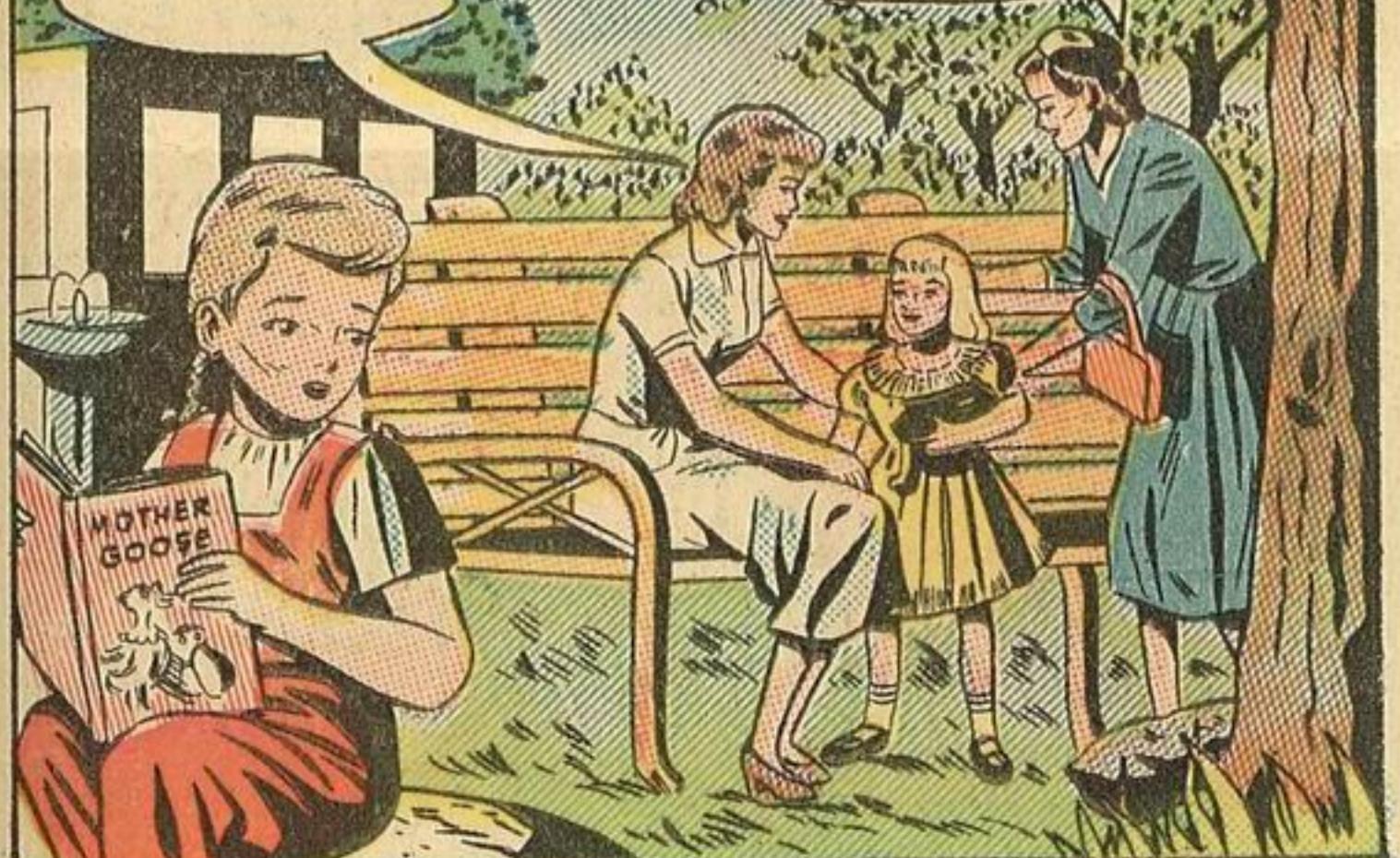
OLDER SISTER!



"EVEN WHEN WE WERE BABIES, THE DISTINCTION WAS CLEARLY DRAWN! I SUPPOSE MOTHER THOUGHT I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND HER... BUT CHILDREN HAVE A WAY OF FEELING THINGS..."

YES, DIANA'S A SWEET CHILD, BUT MAXINE! SHE'S GOING TO BE A BEAUTY!

SHE IS A DARLING! YOU'RE JUST THE PRETTIEST, ITTY-BITTY PRECIOUS!



"THEY TRIED TO HIDE THEIR PARTIALITY, BUT I REMEMBER HOW IT CAME THROUGH ALL OF MOTHER'S AND DAD'S TALKS!"

CAN'T AFFORD TWO NEW EASTER OUTFITS, MAY! WHICH SHALL IT BE?

MAXINE, OF COURSE! DIANA CAN STILL WEAR LAST YEAR'S... AND MAXINE WILL BE DARLING IN BLUE!



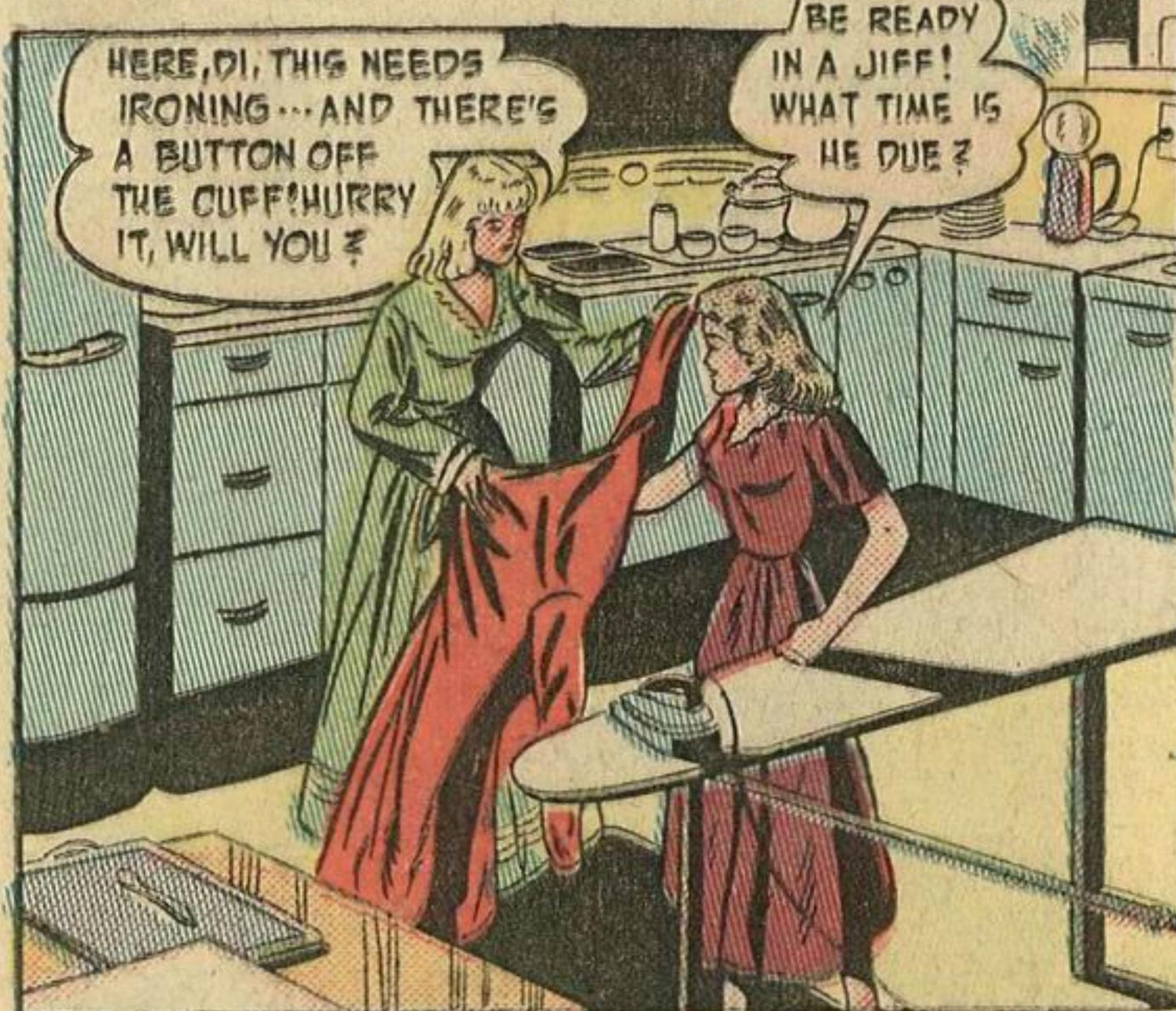
"IT WAS ACCEPTED THAT MAXINE'S DELICATE BEAUTY, HER STRIKING COLORING AND PERFECT FIGURE ENTITLED HER TO ALL PREFERENCES! EVEN I TOOK IT FOR GRANTED! WHEN WE WERE IN OUR TEENS..."



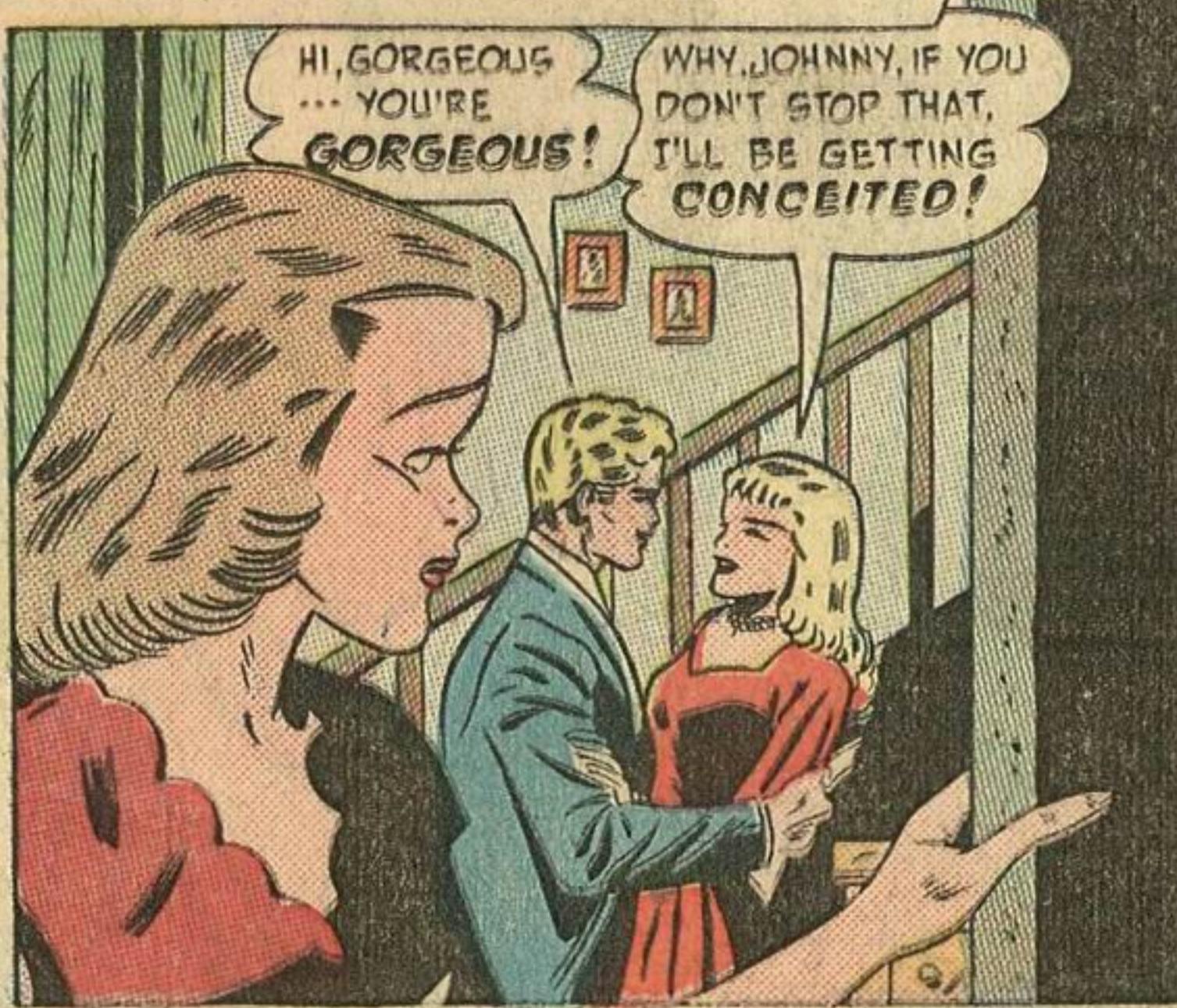
"I NEVER STAYED HURT AT ANYTHING MAXINE SAID! IT WAS SO EXCITING, WATCHING HER HECTIC ROMANCES COME AND GO!"



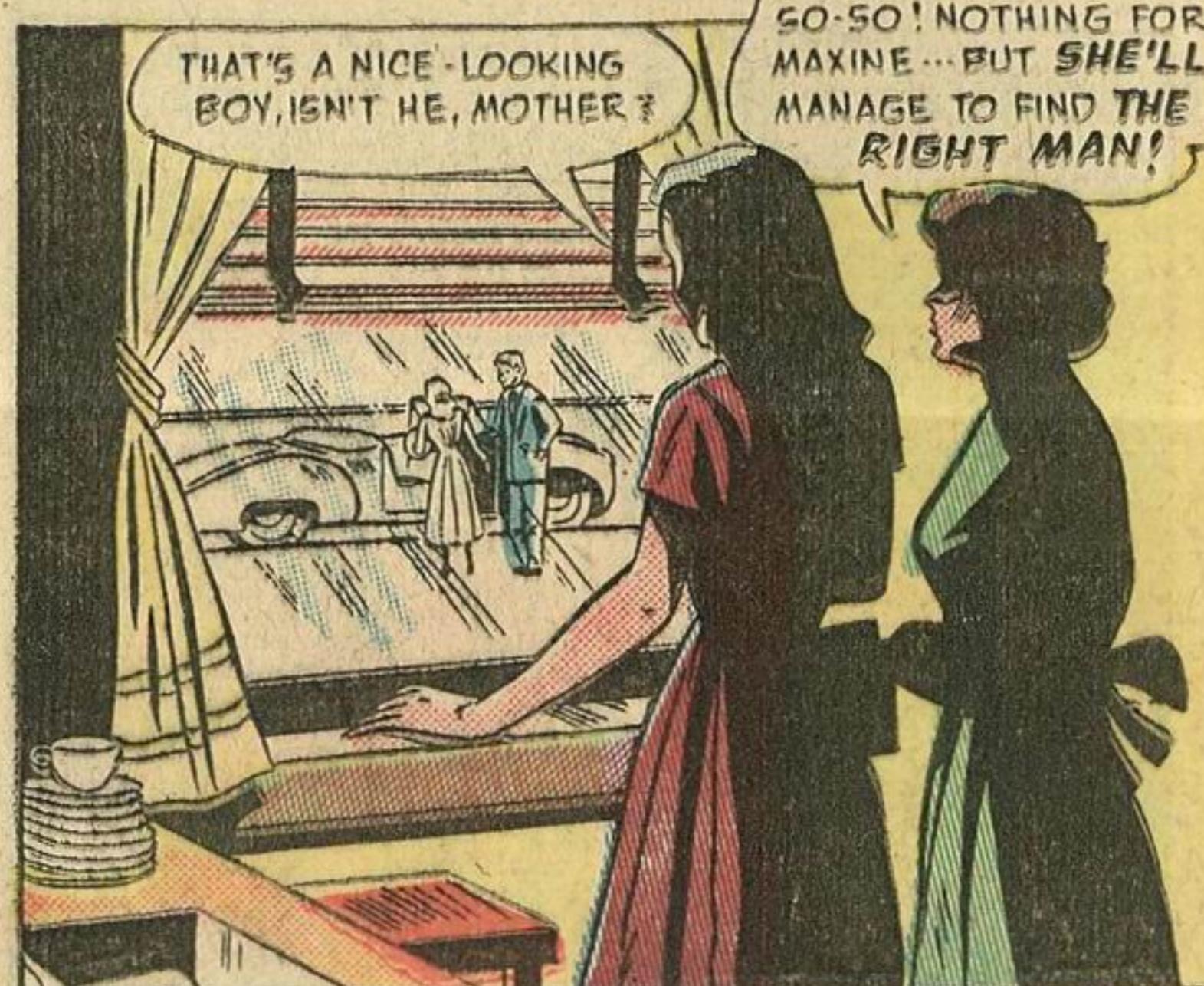
"BY THE TIME I WAS TWENTY-ONE, I HAD LEARNED THAT MAXINE WAS THE FLAXEN-HAIR PRINCESS OF THE FAMILY ... AND I WAS A WILLING HANDMAIDEN!"



"SOMETIMES I FELT LIKE A KID WITH HER NOSE PRESSED FLAT AGAINST A CANDY STORE WINDOW... JUST WISHING! BOYS WENT WILD OVER MY LITTLE SISTER..."



"MAXINE WAS IN NO REAL DANGER OF HAVING HER HEAD TURNED! SHE LIKED TO PRETEND SHE WAS FLIGHTY, BUT SHE KNEW HER MIND... SHE KNEW WHAT SHE WANTED!"



"I NEVER DREAMED OF QUESTIONING MAXINE'S WAYS AND MEANS! AFTER ALL, THE QUEEN COULD DO NO WRONG!"



"WHEN MAXINE COMPLAINED ABOUT HER WARDROBE, IT WAS A SURE SIGN THAT SOMETHING WAS HAPPENING... OR ABOUT TO HAPPEN! I COULDN'T HELP LAUGHING AT HER ONE NIGHT..."



"PAXTON HILL WAS THE WEALTHIEST YOUNG BACHELOR IN TOWN! I COULD SEE THAT MAXINE REALLY MEANT BUSINESS AS SHE WALKED TO MY CLOSET!"



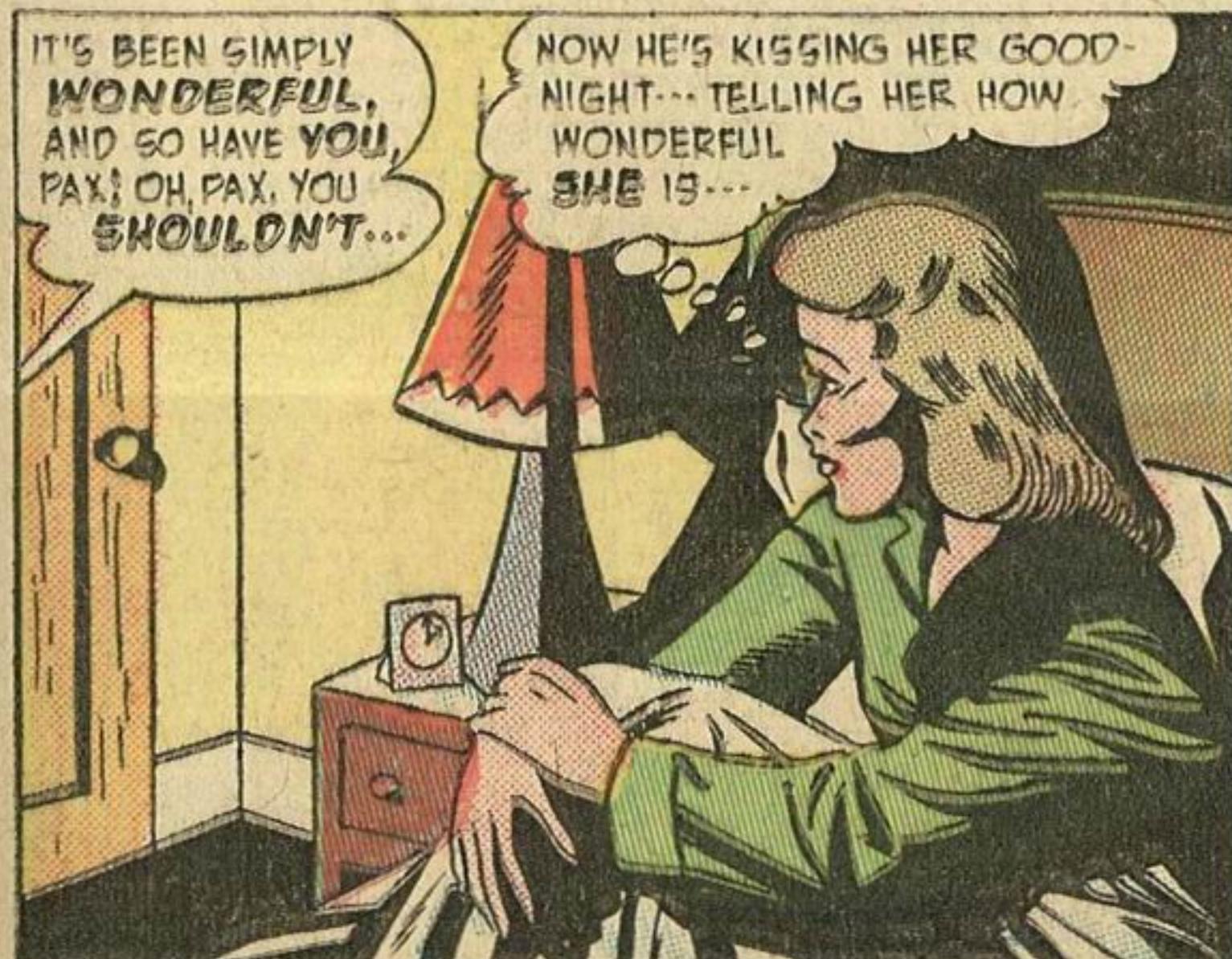
"IN THE END, I HELPED HER INTO IT--OF COURSE! BUT I HAD SAVED FOR A LONG TIME TO BUY THAT DRESS..."



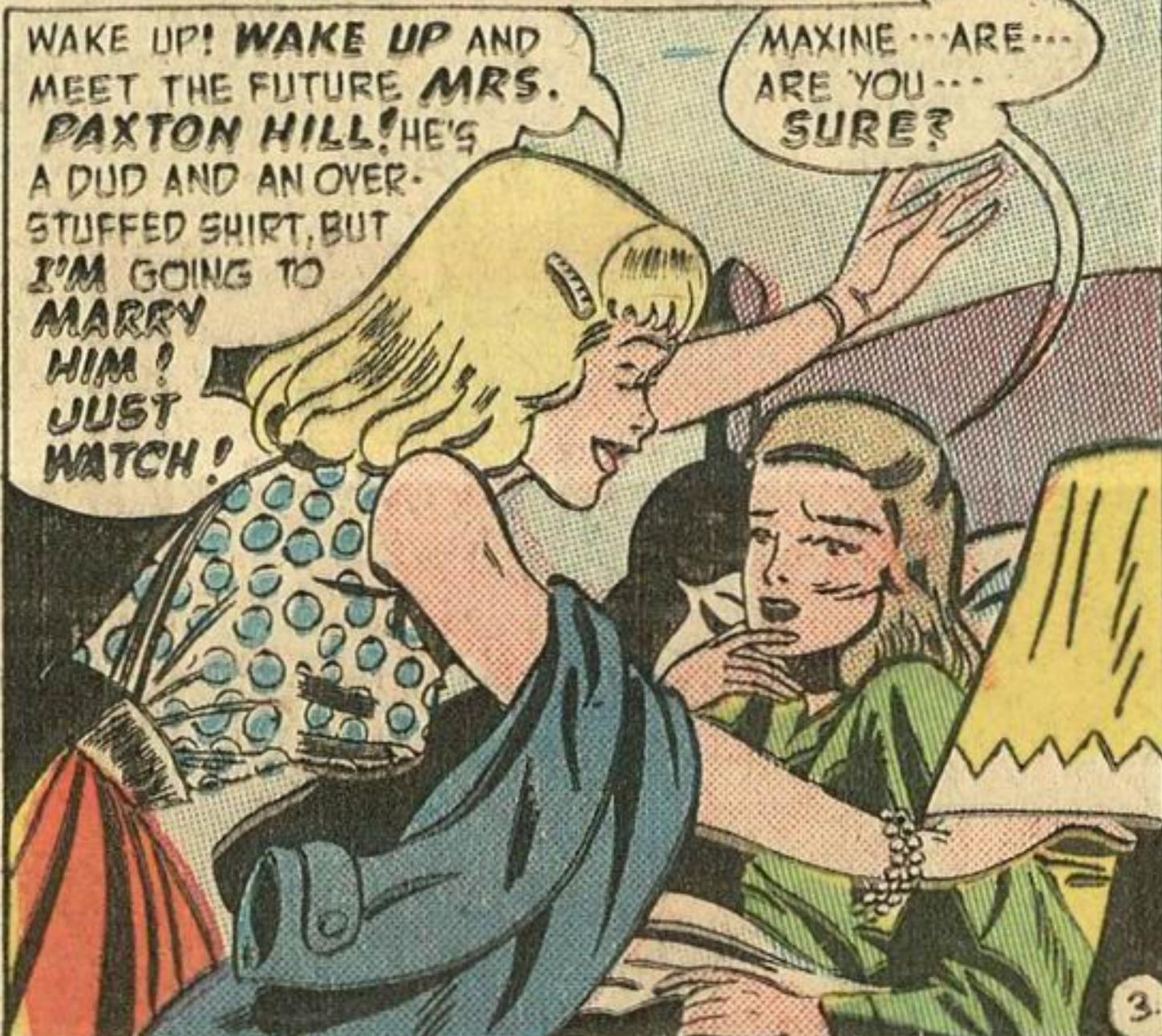
"I HATED IT... BUT I NEVER QUESTIONED IT! I EVEN LIED FOR MY LITTLE SISTER!"



"THE CLOCK STRUCK TWO... AND MAXINE WAS HOME FROM HER FIRST DATE WITH PAXTON HILL! I HEARD HER, SWEET AS HONEY..."



"SHE SWITCHED ON THE NIGHT-TABLE LAMP AND WALTZED AROUND THE ROOM... TRIUMPHANTLY!"



"IN THE BACK OF MY MIND, IN MY HEART, I FELT... SHE'S WRONG! BUT MOTHER AND DAD WERE THRILLED! THEIR WISHES FOR MAXINE WERE COMING TRUE!"

NOTHING BUT THE BEST FOR OUR LITTLE GIRL!

JUST THINK... MRS. PAXTON HILL! MONEY... SOCIAL POSITION...

I AM THINKING OF IT! IN FACT, THAT'S ALL I'M THINKING OF! THAT PERFECTLY ENORMOUS HOUSE...

MAXINE... DON'T YOU... COULDN'T YOU... LOVE HIM?

"SHE THREW ME A LOOK OF SCORN... OF SUPERIOR WISDOM..."

MUCH YOU KNOW ABOUT IT... OR EVER WILL! NO, I'M NOT FRANTIC ABOUT PAX! I DON'T THINK I COULD BE ABOUT ANY MAN! BUT HE'S GOT A LOT OF THINGS I WANT... AND I'M GOING TO GET THEM!

"MAXINE WASN'T LOOKING! SHE COULD WIND MEN AROUND HER LITTLE FINGER WHEN SHE CHOSE TO BE MELTING AND TENDER! SOON, SHE HAD HIM ADORING HER... PROPOSING!"

LOOK, MOTHER... DIANA! IT'S EIGHT KARATS AND FLAWLESS! ISN'T PAXTON A GENEROUS DARLING?

IT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING, DEAR! I'LL GET MOTHER TO SHOW YOU THE FAMILY DIAMONDS!



"WE LEFT THEM ALONE TOGETHER! AFTER A WHILE, MAXINE CAME UP..."

I'M HAPPY FOR YOU, SIS! HE'S REALLY A NICE GUY AND HE WORSHIPS YOU!

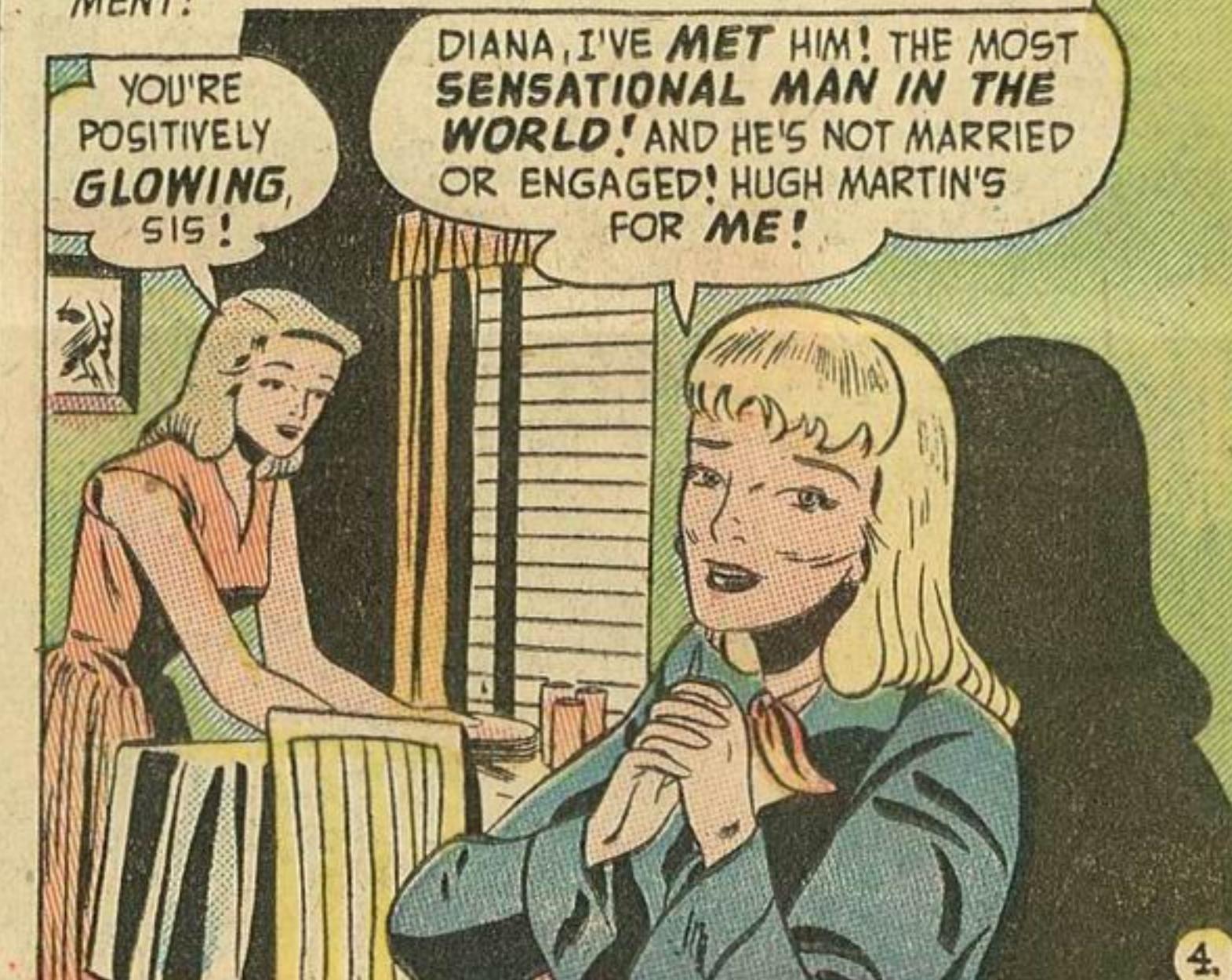
AND HE'S... (YAWN!)... SUCH A BORE! OH, WELL, CAN'T HAVE EVERYTHING, I SUPPOSE! DID YOU RUN MY BATH?



"SHE WAS COMPLETELY BLASE' ABOUT THE MAN SHE WAS GOING TO MARRY! BUT SHORTLY AFTER HER ENGAGEMENT, MAXINE CAME HOME ONE NIGHT, BUBBLING WITH EXCITEMENT!"

YOU'RE POSITIVELY GLOWING, SIS!

DIANA, I'VE MET HIM! THE MOST SENSATIONAL MAN IN THE WORLD! AND HE'S NOT MARRIED OR ENGAGED! HUGH MARTIN'S FOR ME!



"BUT... BUT MAXINE WAS ENAGAGED!"

HE'S JUST BOUGHT THE OLD PERRY STORE AND IS GOING TO TURN IT INTO A MODERN DEPARTMENT STORE! DI, HE'S TERRIFIC!

MAXINE, WHAT ARE YOU THINKING OF?

OF HUGH MARTIN! DID I EVER SAY YOU COULDN'T HAVE EVERYTHING? I WAS **WRONG!** HE'S RICH, HANDSOME, CHARMING... I KNOW I'VE GOT THAT PHONE NUMBER...

AND WHAT ABOUT PAXTON? WHERE DOES HE FIT IN?



"SHE WAS PLAYING WITH FIRE!"

"**A**LL WEEK, MY LITTLE SISTER PLAYED A CAT-AND-
MOUSE GAME, SEEING PAXTON JUST OFTEN ENOUGH
TO PULL THE WOOL OVER HIS EYES! BUT ONE NIGHT..."

THANK GOODNESS, PAX IS
LEAVING TOWN TOMORROW
FOR A WHOLE WEEK!
NOW HUGH CAN COME
TO DINNER! THE WAY TO A
MAN'S HEART...



"**D**ON'T BE STUFFY, DI! I WANT HUGH TO
SEE ME AS A HOME GIRL! YOU'LL
COOK US ONE OF YOUR SPECIAL
DISHES, WON'T YOU?"

"**N**O...NO, I
WON'T!
MAXINE, CAN'T
YOU SEE HOW
DISHONEST
THIS IS?"



"**S**HE COAXED, WHEELED AND GOT AROUND ME, AS
USUAL! SHE EVEN PROMISED TO SET THE TABLE, WHICH, FOR
MAXINE, WAS A SACRIFICE! THE FOLLOWING EVENING..."

AND WE'LL PRETEND I DID THE COOKING,
SIS! AND RIGHT AFTER DINNER, YOU'LL
SORT OF... **DISAPPEAR**! OH, THE
PHONE... I'LL GET IT!

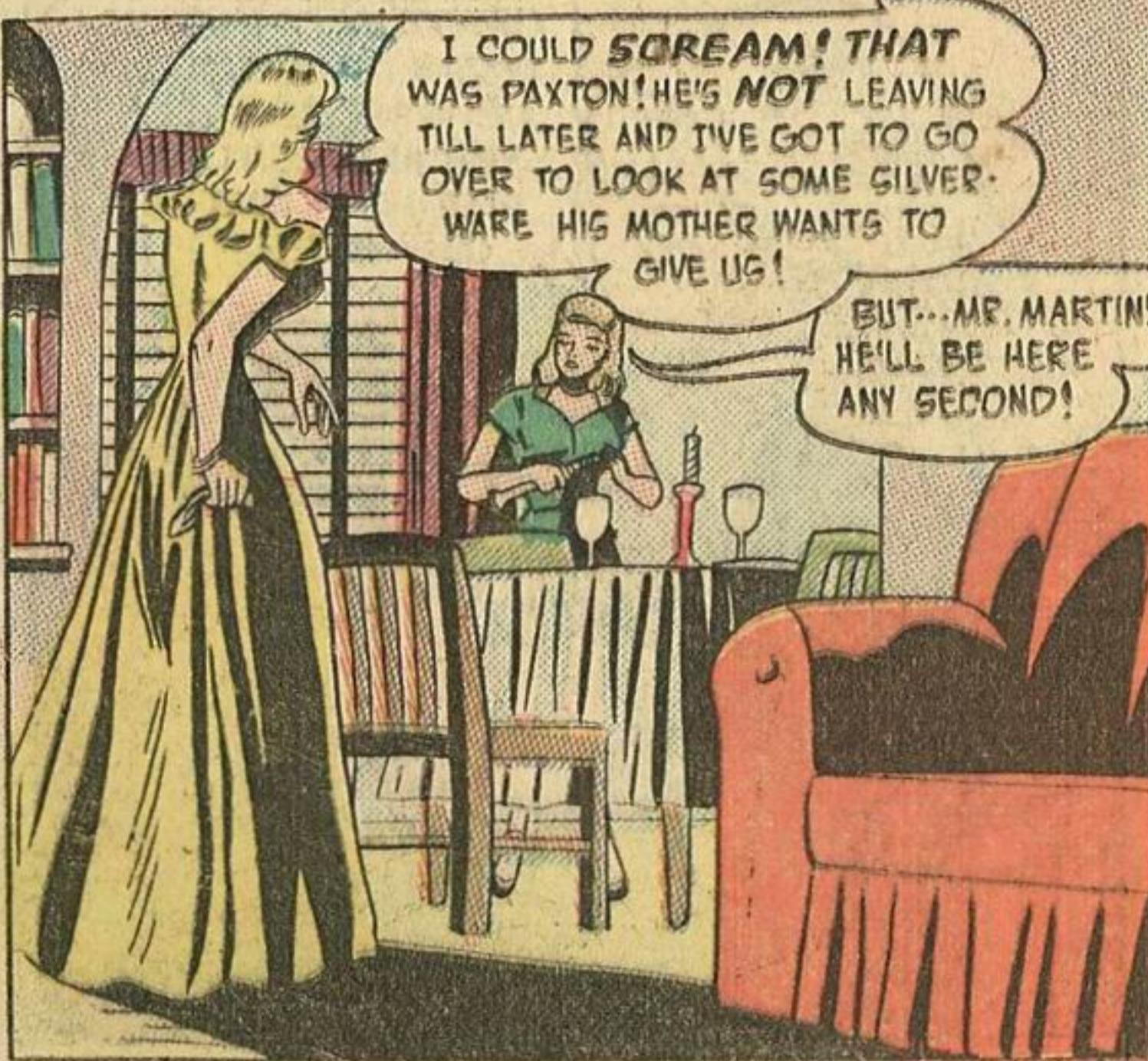
SHE CAN'T
KNOW WHAT
SHE'S
DOING...



"**M**AXINE CAME BACK, ANGRY AND TIGHT-LIPPED!"

I COULD SCREAM! THAT
WAS PAXTON! HE'S **NOT** LEAVING
TILL LATER AND I'VE GOT TO GO
OVER TO LOOK AT SOME SILVER-
WARE HIS MOTHER WANTS TO
GIVE US!

BUT...MR. MARTIN!
HE'LL BE HERE
ANY SECOND!



"**M**ORE AND MORE, HER CRUELTY WAS REVEALED... IN
LITTLE STABBING WORDS..."

TALK TO HIM... PLAY RECORDS
... GIVE HIM A COCKTAIL! KEEP
HIM ENTERTAINED UNTIL I GET
BACK... IF YOU CAN!

DON'T WORRY,
MAXINE... I'LL
MANAGE, SOME-
HOW!



"**I** NEVER DREADED THE RING OF A DOORBELL BEFORE! AND
WHEN IT CAME... WHEN I OPENED THE DOOR... **TO HIM**..."

HELLO, I'M HUGH
MARTIN! I'M ON
TIME, I HOPE!

WHY... HE **IS**... EVERYTHING
THAT MAXINE SAID! HE
IS SENSATIONAL!



"**S**TUMBLED OVER THE EXPLANATIONS AND APOLOGIES, LIKE A TONGUE-TIED SCHOOLGIRL WITH A TERRIFIC CRUSH ON A TEACHER! COULD HE HEAR MY HEART-BEATS, I WONDERED?"

SIT DOWN AND TELL ME ABOUT YOUR TOWN! REMEMBER, I'M NEW HERE!

ALL RIGHT, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW?



"**S**T WAS CRAZY, BUT TRUE! IN TEN MINUTES ... I'D FALLEN IN LOVE!"

ABOUT THE STORE... DO YOU THINK THIS TOWN WANTS A MODERN DEPARTMENT STORE?

WE'RE ACHING FOR ONE! WHY, EVERY WOMAN FOR MILES AROUND WOULD GIVE HER EYE-TEETH FOR SOME BIG CITY FASHIONS!



"**H**E LAUGHED SO HEARTILY AT THE PICTURE I PAINTED, THAT I JOINED IN! NEITHER OF US HEARD THE FRONT DOOR OPEN UNTIL ..."

HELLO! I'M SO SORRY I DESERTED YOU, HUGH! YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TOO BORED, I HOPE!

BORED? ON THE CONTRARY, I...



"**M**Y HEART SEEMED TO MELT AT THE SOUND OF HIS VOICE! I FOUND MYSELF WONDERING HOW IT WOULD FEEL TO BE IN HIS ARMS ... TO BE KISSED ..."

OH! I BEG YOUR PARDON ... I ... I DIDN'T HEAR YOU!



YOU INTEREST ME, WOMAN! TELL ME MORE!

WELL, OLD MR. PERRY'S IDEA OF HIGH FASHION IS SOMETHING IN BLACK SERGE WITH A BUSTLE! WHY, HE'S EVEN TRIED TO SELL ME A PAIR OF HIGH-BUTTONED SHOES!



"**S**HE LOOKED AT ME COLDLY, MEANINGFULLY! THEN SHE PUT HER HAND POSSESSIVELY ON HUGH'S ARM, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE ... I HATED HER!"

YOU DON'T HAVE TO STAY, DI! I KNOW YOU'RE IN A HURRY TO LEAVE!

I'VE CHANGED MY MIND, MAXINE! I'M STAYING!



"**I** THOUGHT SHE WAS GOING TO SLAP ME! NO ONE IN OUR FAMILY HAD EVER OPPOSED MAXINE BEFORE! INSTEAD..."

THEN WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US, DEAR? YOU MUST BE STARVED FOR MALE COMPANY!

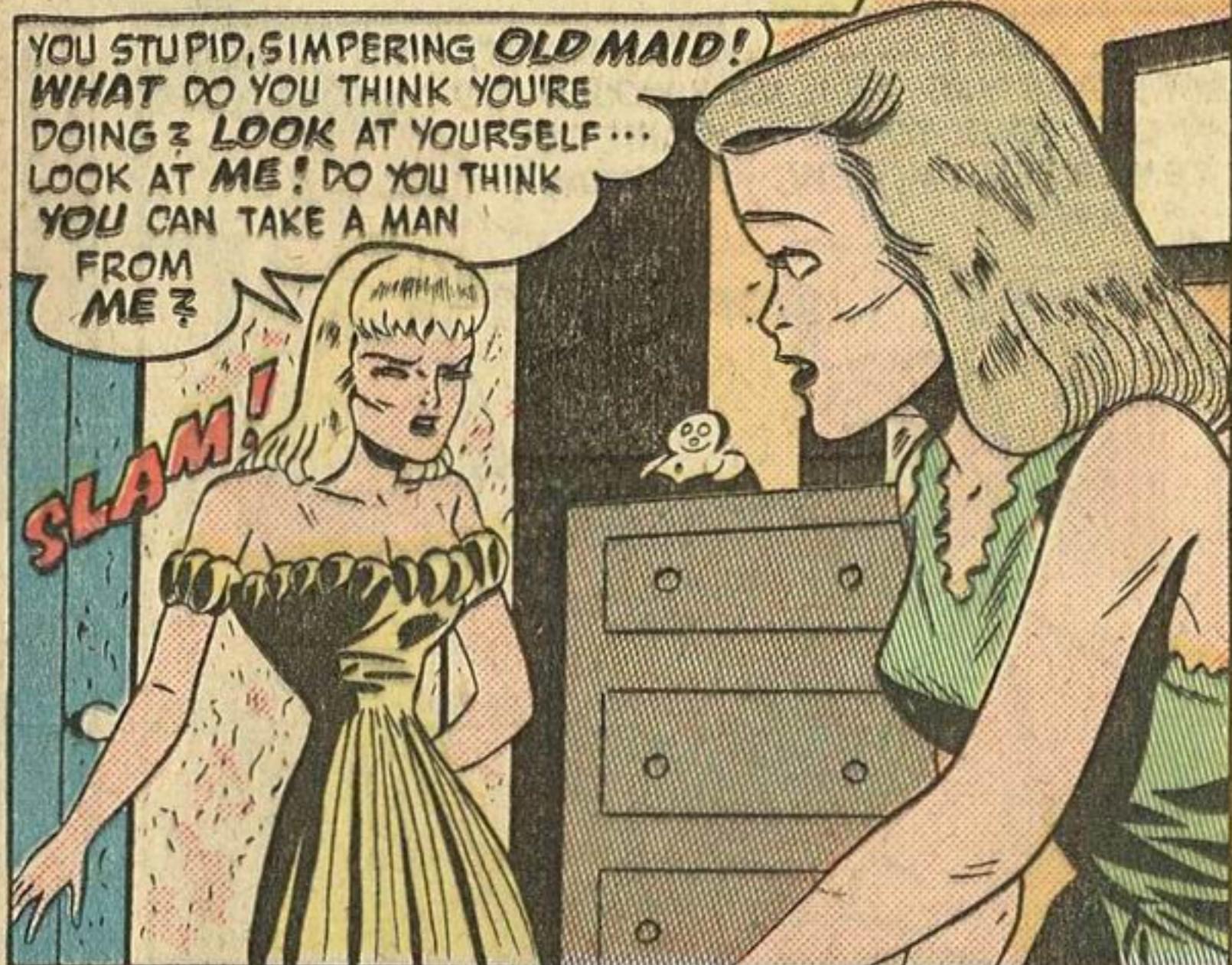
I AM STARVED... FOR DINNER!



"**A**FTER DINNER, I EXCUSSED MYSELF AND WENT UPSTAIRS... BUT NOT TO SLEEP! TO DREAM... ABOUT HUGH! HOURS LATER, MY DREAMS WERE VIOLENTLY SHATTERED!"

YOU STUPID, SIMPERING OLD MAID! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING? LOOK AT YOURSELF... LOOK AT ME! DO YOU THINK YOU CAN TAKE A MAN FROM ME?

SLAM!



"**I**T MUST HAVE BEEN THE COURAGE OF THE LOVE THAT HAD TAKEN HOLD OF MY HEART! FOR I DARED TO STRIKE BACK!"

LOOK AT YOURSELF, MAXINE... INSIDE YOURSELF! DO YOU SEE A VAIN, SHALLOW, CONTEMPTIBLE LITTLE SOUL THERE? I DO!

STAY AWAY FROM HUGH MARTIN! JUST STAY AWAY!



"**T**HAT WAS ALL SHE SAID! SILENTLY, SHE WENT TO BED, WHILE I..."

HUGH! DARLING, WONDERFUL HUGH! I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SAY THOSE WORDS TO YOU... BUT I CAN THINK THEM!



"**T**HE PATTERN OF A LIFETIME WAS TOO STRONG FOR ME! MAXINE HAD ALWAYS WON! SHE WOULD WIN NOW!"

I CAN'T FIGHT HER! I WOULDN'T KNOW HOW! SHE'LL GET HIM AS SHE'S GOTTEN EVERYTHING HER HEART'S BEEN SET ON... IF SHE HAS A HEART!



"**A** TERRIBLE SENSE OF LOSS SWEPT OVER ME... FOR A LOVE I WOULD NEVER KNOW! THEN, SOUNDING LIKE AN ALARM IN THE NIGHT, THE PHONE RANG DOWNSTAIRS..."

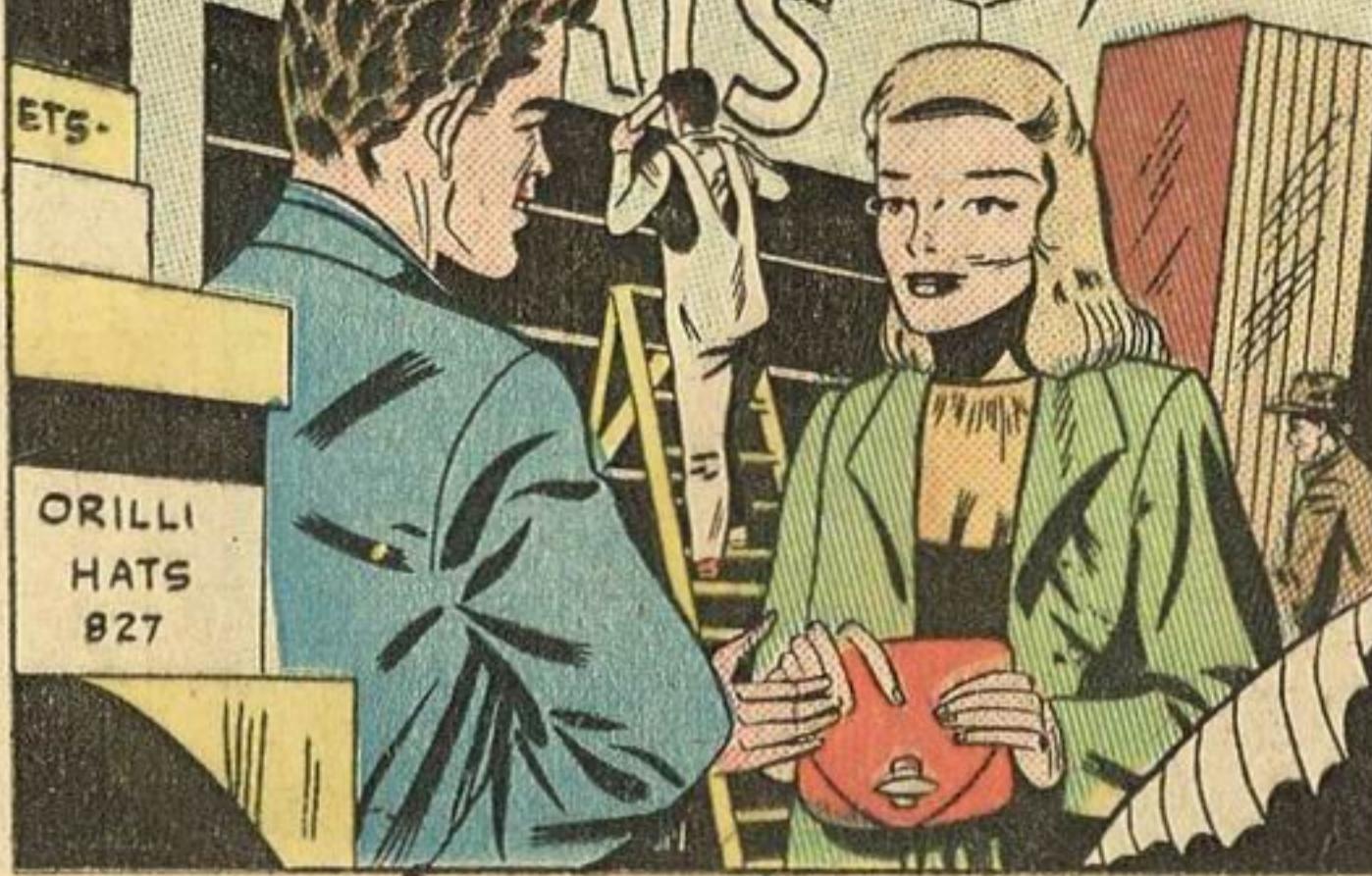
WHO... MR. MARTIN? YOU... YOU WANT ME TO COME DOWN TO THE STORE TOMORROW MORNING? ARE YOU SURE YOU MEAN ME?



"MAXINE HAD WARNED ME TO STAY AWAY, BUT I WENT, DEFIANTLY, SECRETLY! ONLY TO SEE HIM AGAIN..."

HI, YOU'RE A RARE SIGHT... A GIRL WHO LOOKS PRETTY IN THE MORNING! YOU'VE GOT LOTS OF GOOD IDEAS ABOUT THE STORE, MISS... MAY I CALL YOU DIANA?

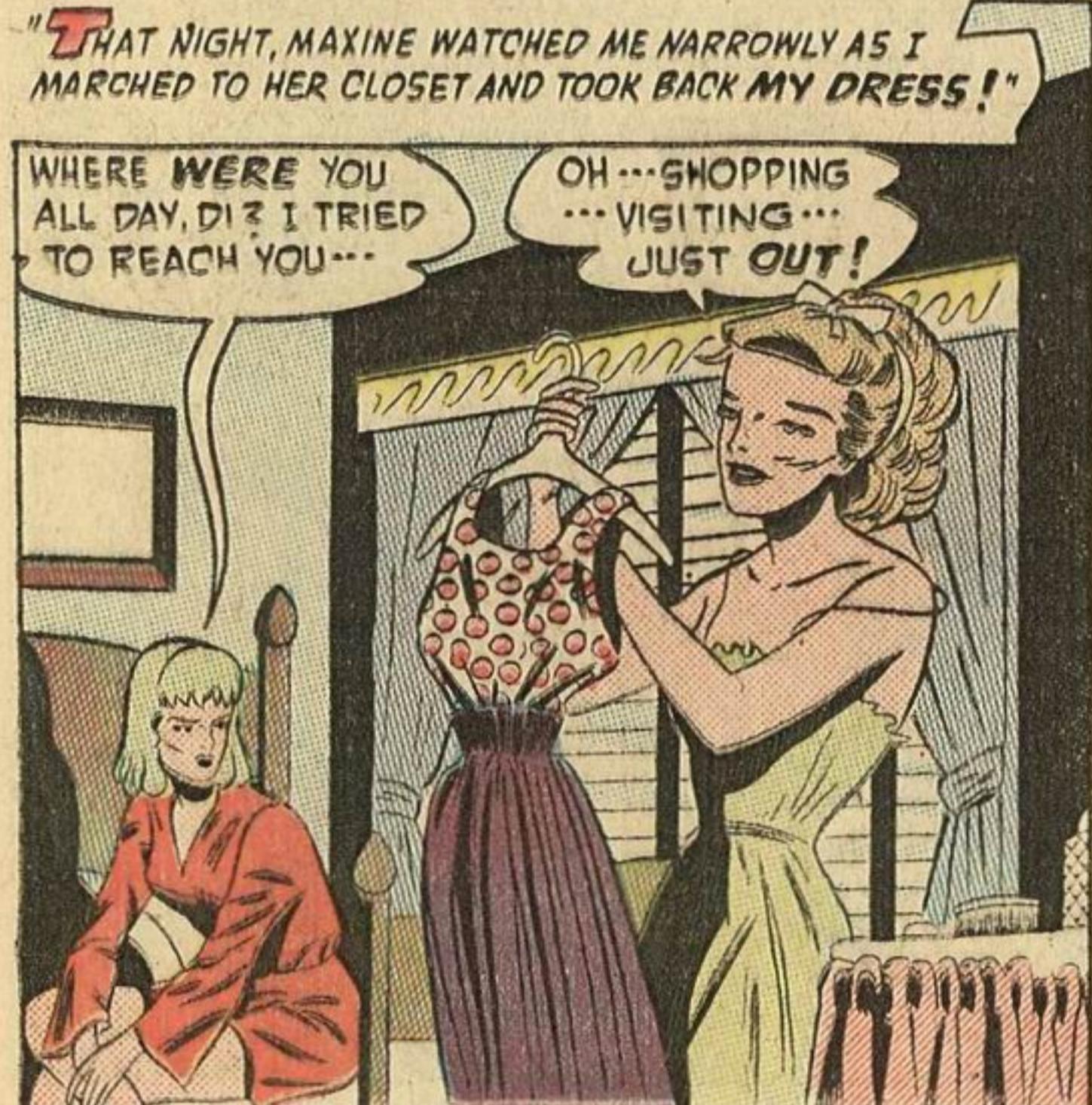
OH, YES, PLEASE DO!



"THAT NIGHT, MAXINE WATCHED ME NARROWLY AS I MARCHED TO HER CLOSET AND TOOK BACK MY DRESS!"

WHERE WERE YOU ALL DAY, DI? I TRIED TO REACH YOU...

OH...SHOPPING... VISITING... JUST OUT!



"WE TOURED THE STORE, STOPPING ONLY FOR A SANDWICH LUNCH, AND I TALKED A BLUE STREAK ABOUT THE KIND OF STORE THE WOMEN IN TOWN WOULD LIKE!"

NOT BEFORE YOU PROMISE TO COME BACK TOMORROW... PLEASE!



"I SAW HUGH CONSTANTLY AFTER THAT DAY, SALVING MY CONSCIENCE BY PRETENDING IT WAS ALL BUSINESS! ONE AFTERNOON..."

HERE'S OUR FIRST PARIS MODEL, DI, DIRECT. FROM THE RUE DE LA PAIX! PUT IT ON, WILL YOU?

HUGH, I COULDN'T! I'M NOT GLAMOROUS ENOUGH!



"FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER..." I'M GLAD YOU LIKE IT! IT IS BEAUTIFUL!

YOU... YOU'RE LOVELY, DIANA... BREATH-TAKING!



"MY HEART SKIPPED A BEAT AS HE CAME CLOSER! I COULDN'T LET HIM KISS ME, THOUGH MY ARMS ACHED FOR HIM! THERE WAS MAXINE..."

YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL! YOU'RE EVERYTHING I'VE...

I'D BETTER GET OUT OF THIS BEFORE I GET USED TO IT! BESIDES, IT IS GETTING LATE AND I'VE GOT TO RUN!



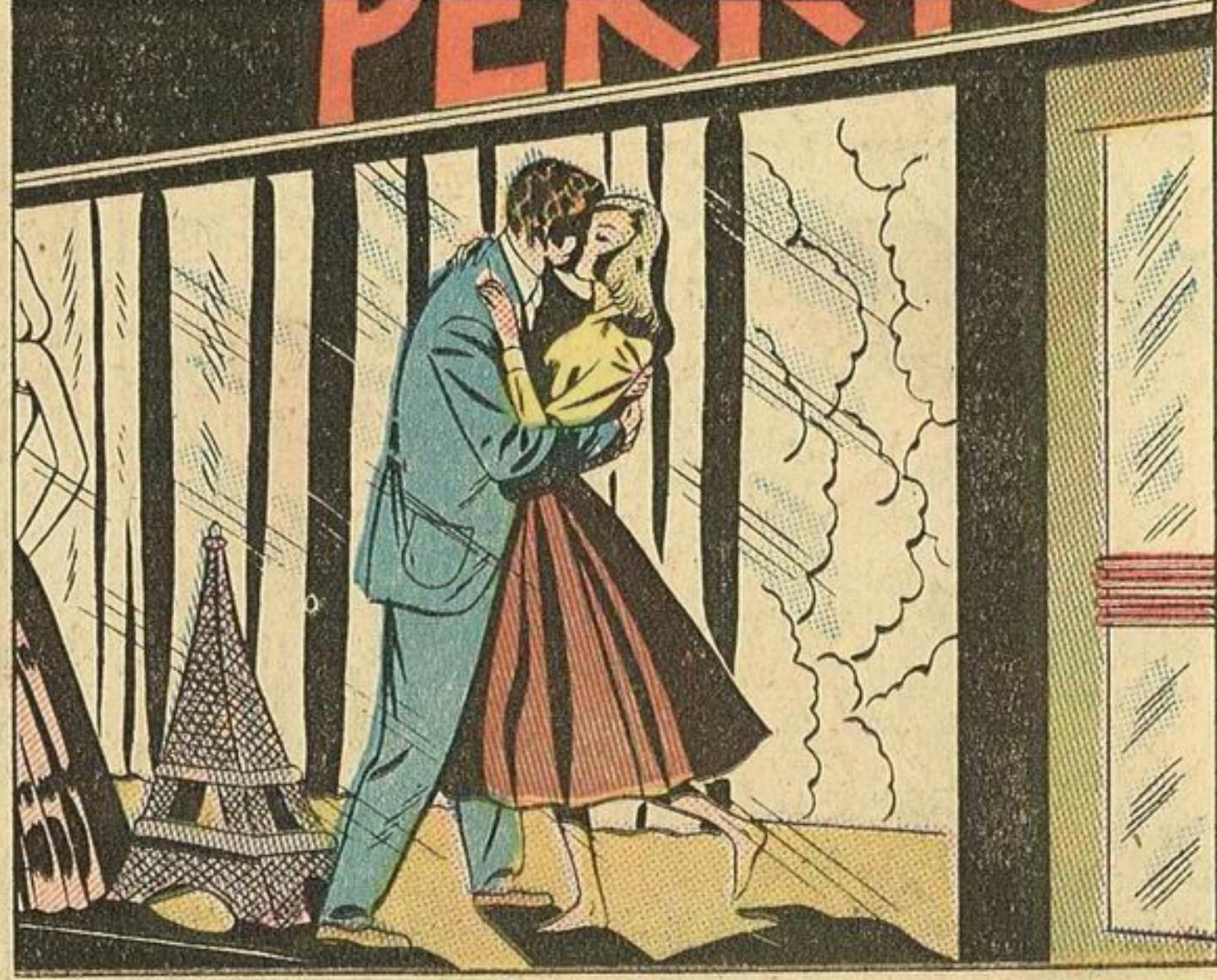
"EVEN THE THOUGHT OF HUGH'S KISS WAS THRILLING! I'D BETTER STOP SEEING HIM, I THOUGHT! I'D TELL HIM SO, THE VERY NEXT NIGHT..."

COME OUT IN THE WINDOW AND TAKE A LOOK AT OUR DISPLAY!

WAIT'LL I GET MY SHOES OFF!



"SHE DUCKED DOWN THROUGH THE LOW DOOR AND WALKED... INTO HIS ARMS! AND IN THE MAIN DISPLAY WINDOW OF WHAT USED TO BE MR. PERRY'S STAI'D OLD STORE..."



"HUGH... DARLING, WONDERFUL HUGH! ALL MY PENT-UP LOVE WENT INTO THAT KISS AND WAS RETURNED IN FULL MEASURE! A LITTLE DIZZY, I CLUNG TO HIM..."

WE SEEM TO HAVE AN APPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE!

MAXINE!



"SHE FORGOT HERSELF COMPLETELY! STORMING TOWARDS US, SHE LET LOOSE A TORRENT OF ABUSIVE RAGE, HATING ME, ENVYING ME!"

SO THIS IS WHERE YOU'VE BEEN SPENDING YOUR TIME, STEALING MY MAN! DON'T YOU KNOW I'VE BROKEN MY ENGAGEMENT TO PAXTON?

YOU WERE TOO HASTY, MAXINE!

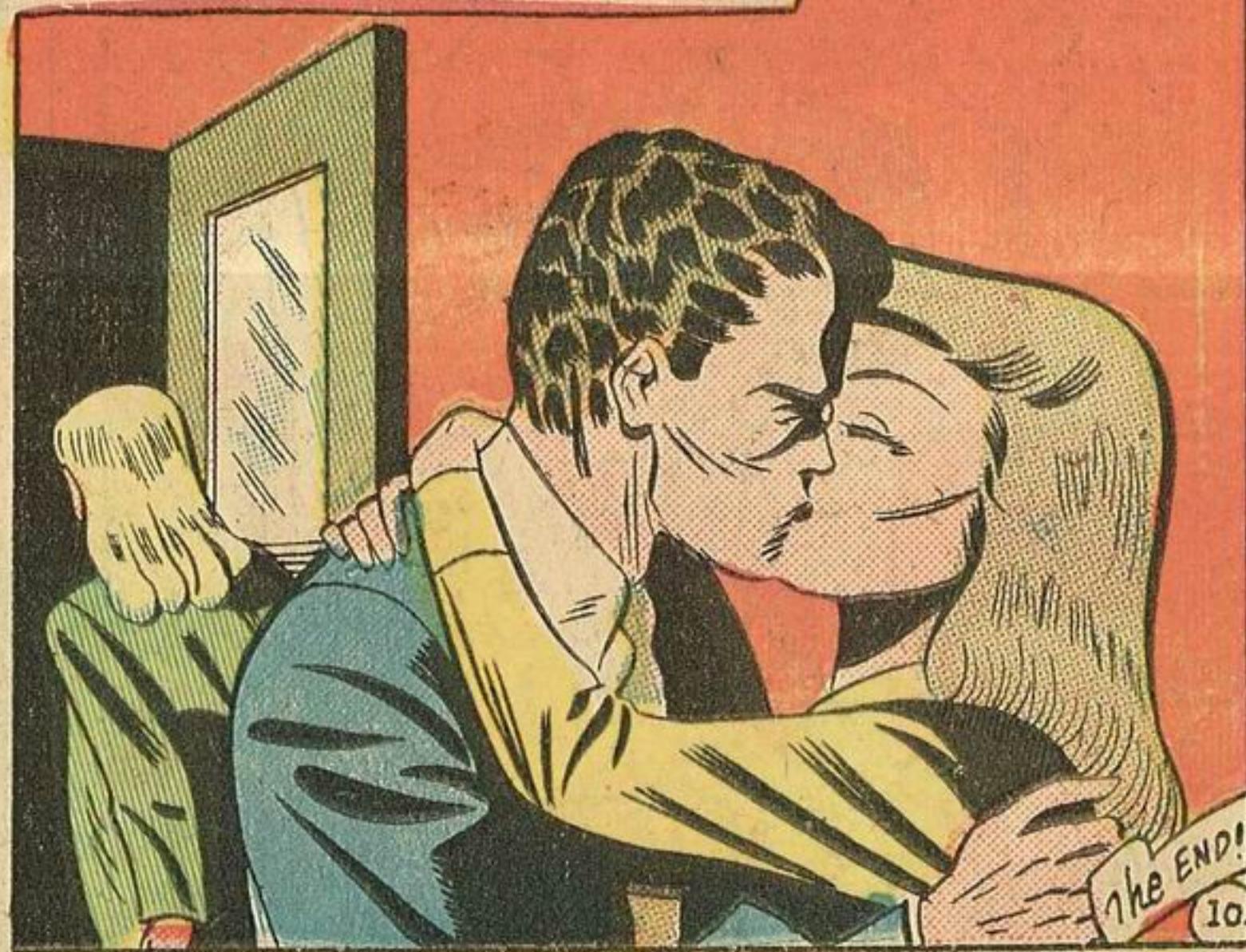


I'LL NEVER SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN AS LONG AS I LIVE! YOU'RE TREACHEROUS, DECEITFUL...

MAXINE, LISTEN TO ME... YOU MUST!

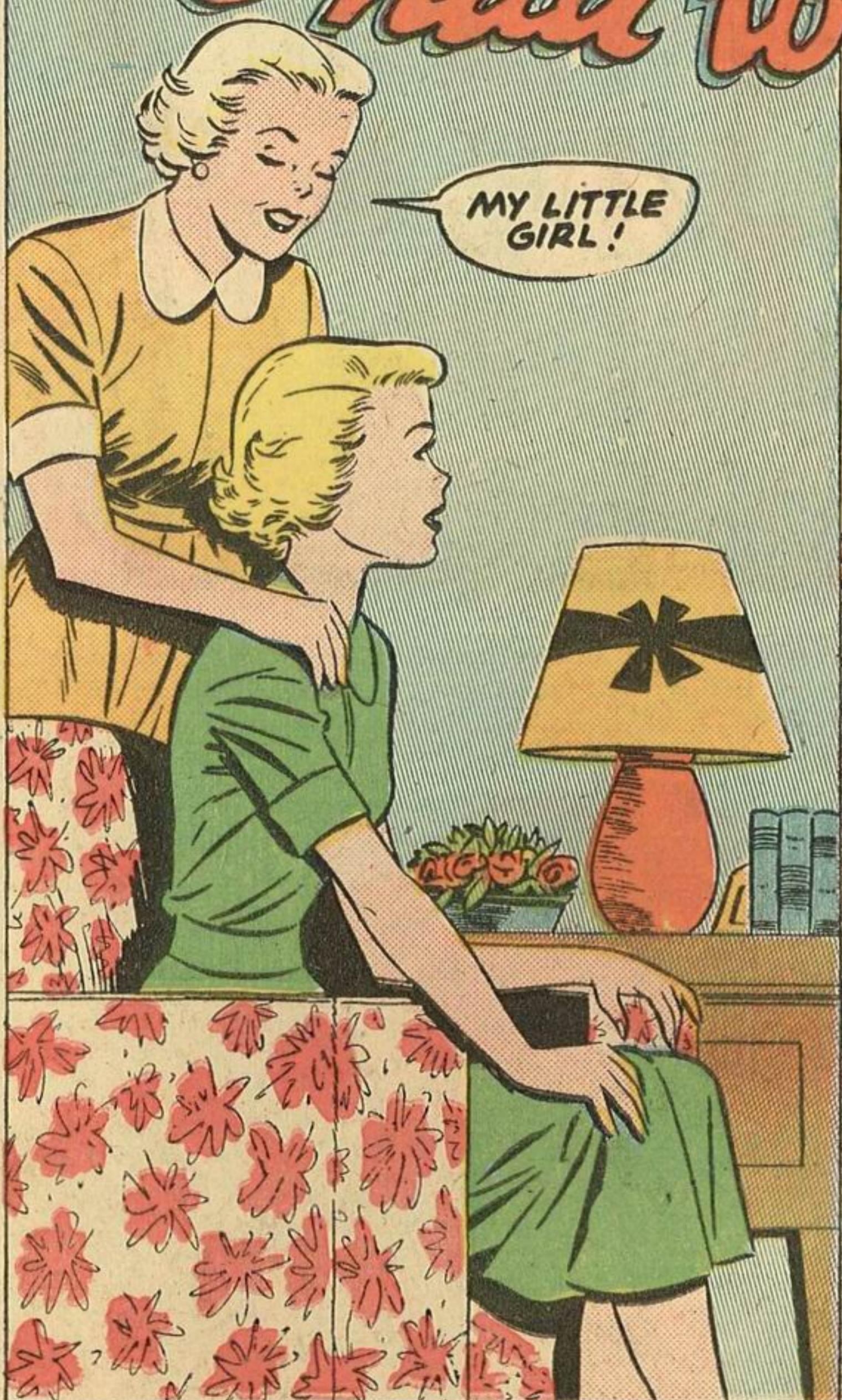


"SHE WOULDN'T LISTEN! I COULD ONLY HOPE THAT SOME DAY, MY LITTLE SISTER WOULD LEARN THE TRUTH... THAT A HEART IS THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT OF ALL... A HEART GIVEN IN REAL LOVE... FOR ALL TIME!"



"WHICH WAS IT TO BE... THE SAFETY OF MOTHER'S PROTECTING ARMS OR THE THRILLING EMBRACE OF THE MAN I LOVED? FINDING THE ANSWER WAS HARD BECAUSE FIRST...

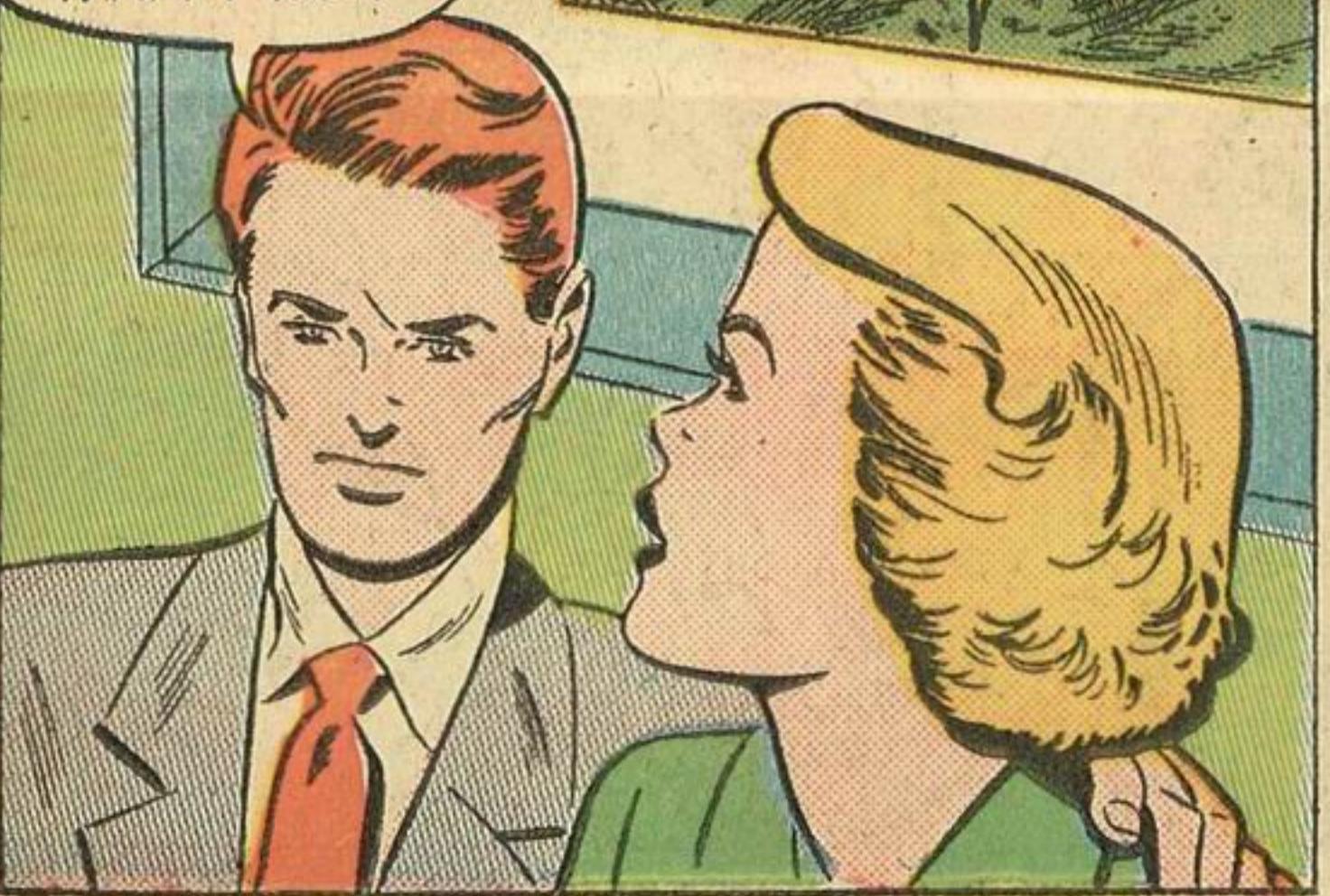
9 had to GROW UP!



"IF YOU'VE EVER BEEN IN LOVE, WILDLY, HAPPILY, INSANELY IN LOVE, YOU'LL UNDERSTAND HOW I FELT ABOUT JOHN... AND HOW HE FELT ABOUT ME!"

I WISH WE WERE ALONE IN OUR OWN HOUSE RIGHT NOW, EVELYN! AND WE COULD BE, IF YOU'D MAKE UP YOUR MIND TO MARRY ME!

IF ONLY I COULD DECIDE, DARLING! SOMEHOW... I--I CAN'T!



"THE TRUTH WAS THAT I WAS AFRAID TO LEAVE HOME, WHERE EVERYTHING HAD BEEN DONE FOR ME BY MY ADORING MOTHER!"

NOW, DON'T TOUCH THOSE DISHES OR YOU'LL RUIN YOUR HANDS! WHY DON'T YOU TRY ON YOUR NEW DRESS, DEAR? I TOOK UP THE HEM THIS MORNING!

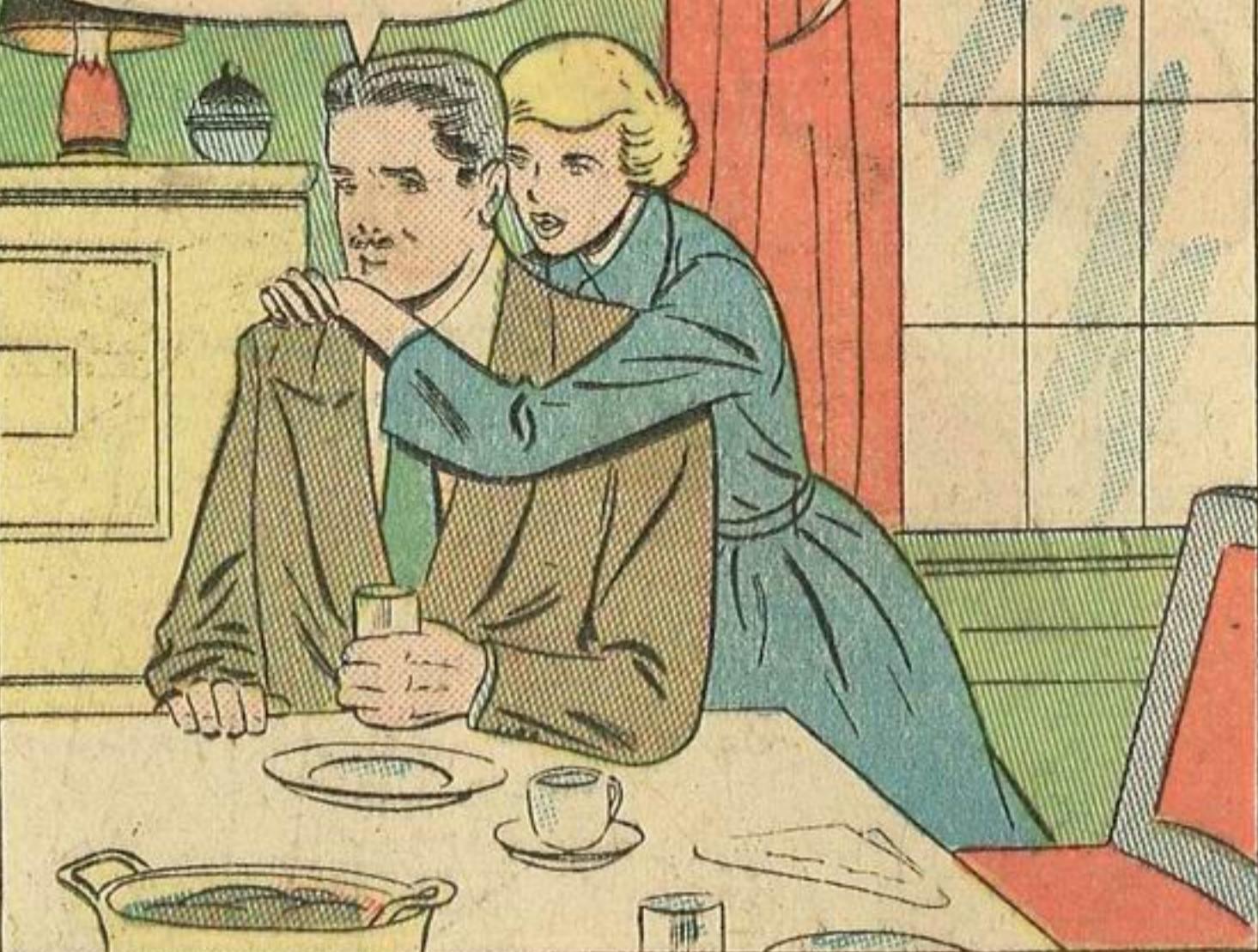
OH, THANK YOU, MOTHER!



"DAD LOVED TO PAMPER ME, TOO..."

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GO ON A SHOPPING SPREE, EVELYN, I BELIEVE I MIGHT FURNISH THE CASH!

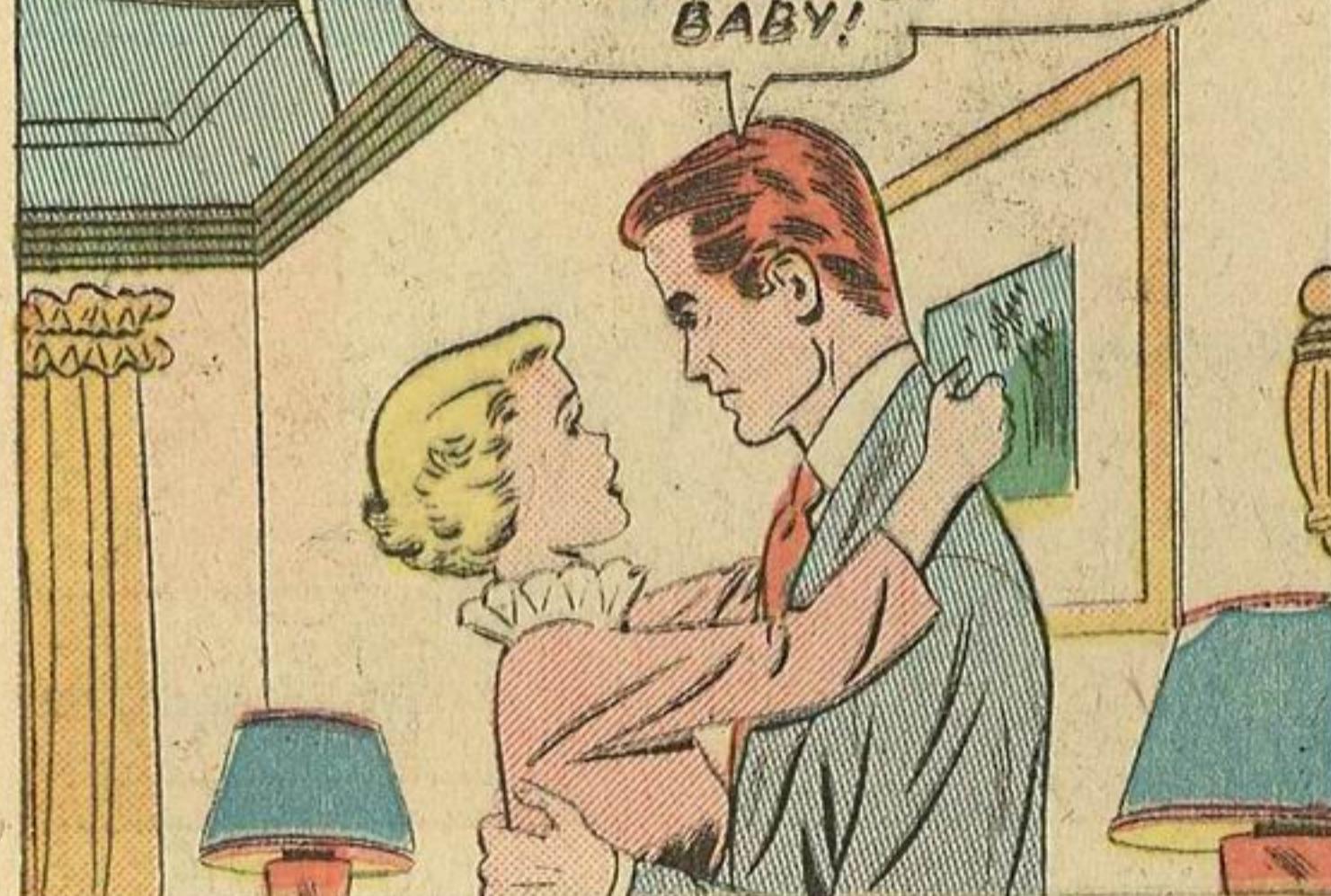
OH, DADDY, YOU'RE DARLING!



"JOHN SAW ALL THIS AND RESANTED IT! TRY AS I MIGHT, I COULDN'T MAKE HIM SEE THEIR SIDE..."

IT'S BECAUSE THEY LOVE ME SO MUCH, DARLING!

IF THEY REALLY LOVED YOU, THEY'D GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO STAND ON YOUR OWN TWO FEET! WHY, YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A BEAUTIFUL BABY!



"MY FEELINGS WERE HURT! QUICK TEARS SPRANG TO MY EYES AS I DEFENDED MYSELF..."

I'M NOT' I JUST AS CAPABLE AS ANY GIRL... AND I'LL PROVE IT!

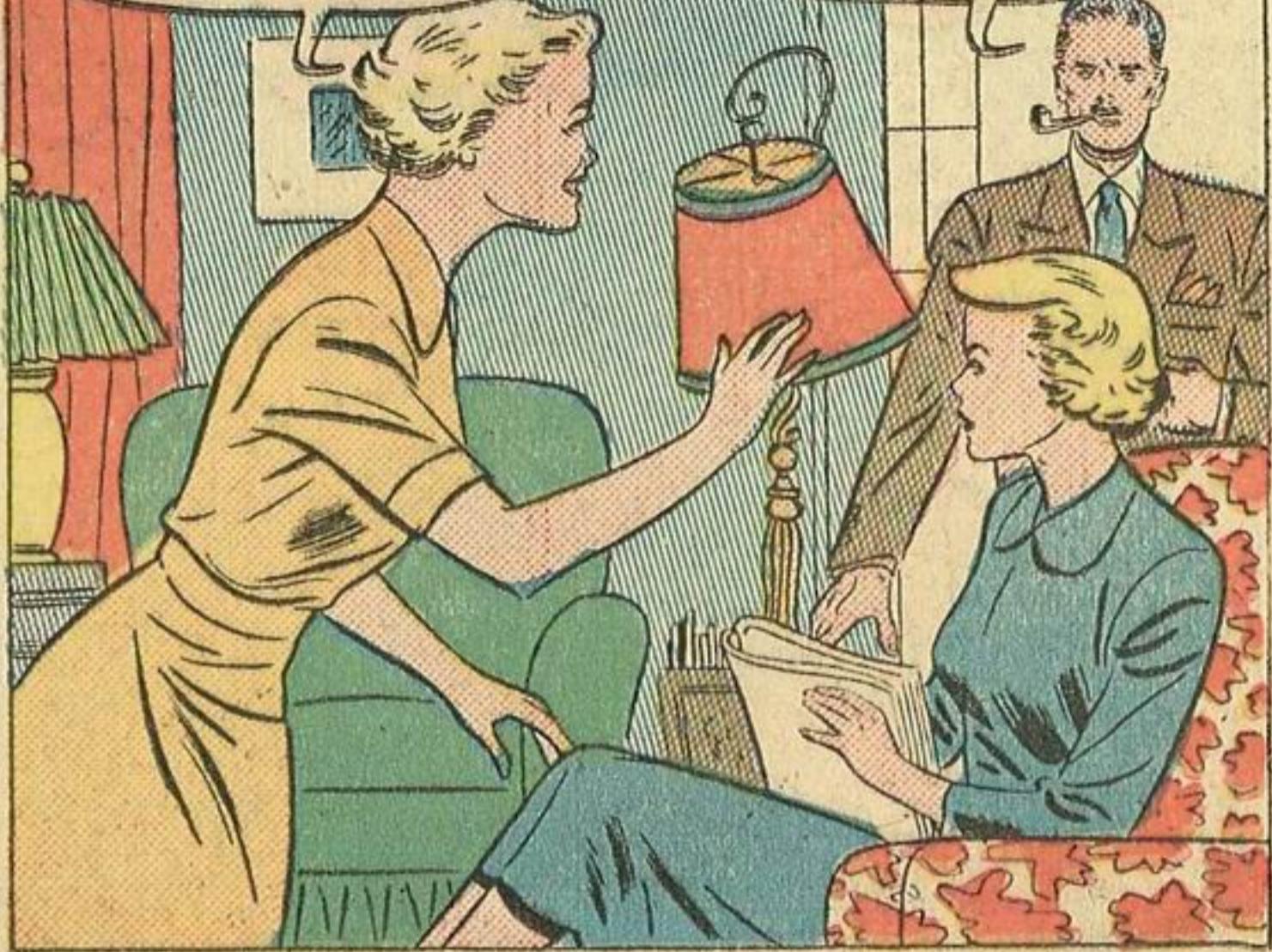
I WISH YOU WOULD, ANGEL! WHEN... WHERE... HOW?



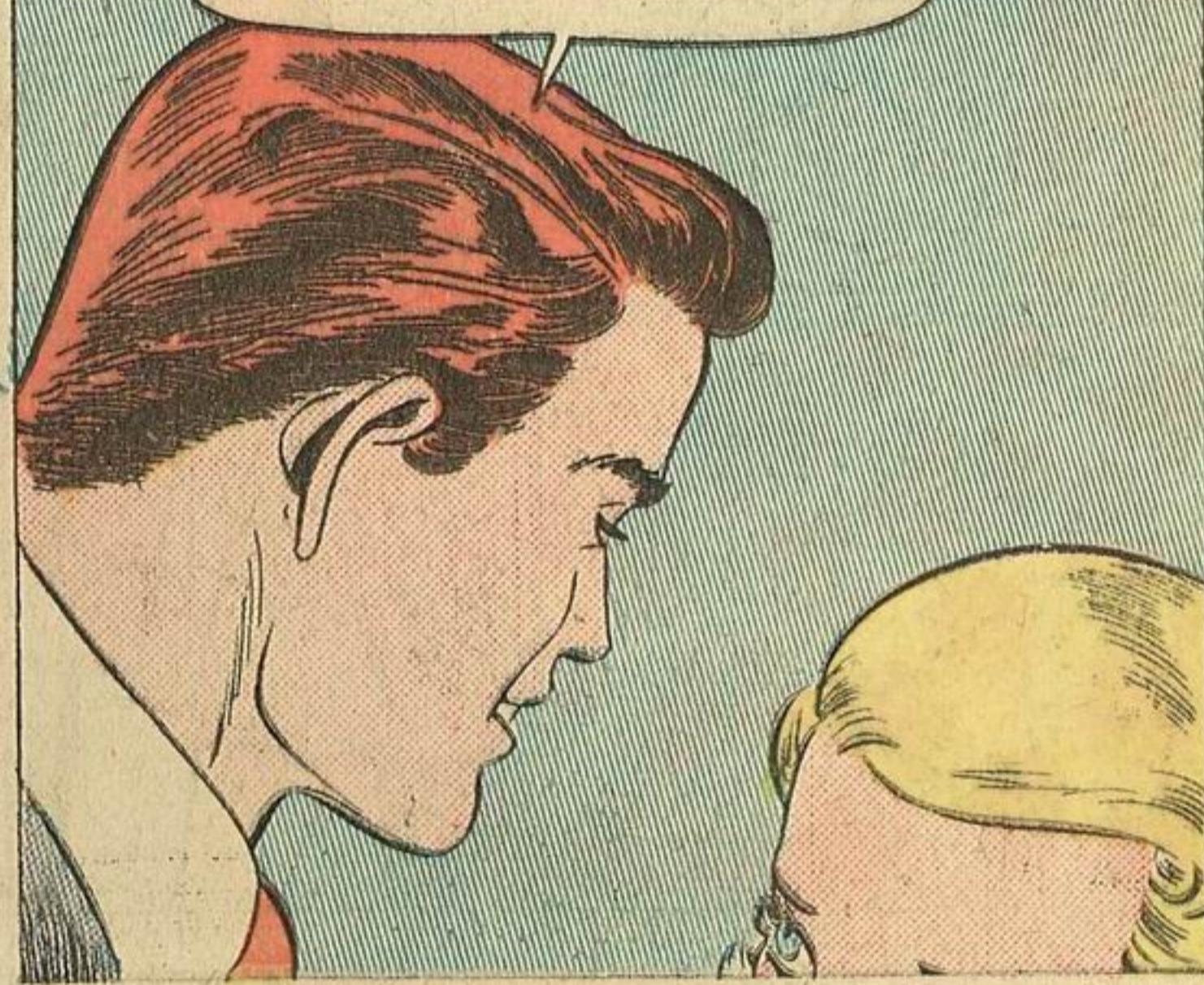
"I NEVER DREW A TUB, RINSED UNDIES, OR MADE A BED! EVERYTHING WAS DONE FOR ME!"

DON'T READ IN THAT LIGHT, DEAR! YOU'LL HURT YOUR EYES!

FIX THAT LAMP-SHADE, ELLA... THAT'S RIGHT!

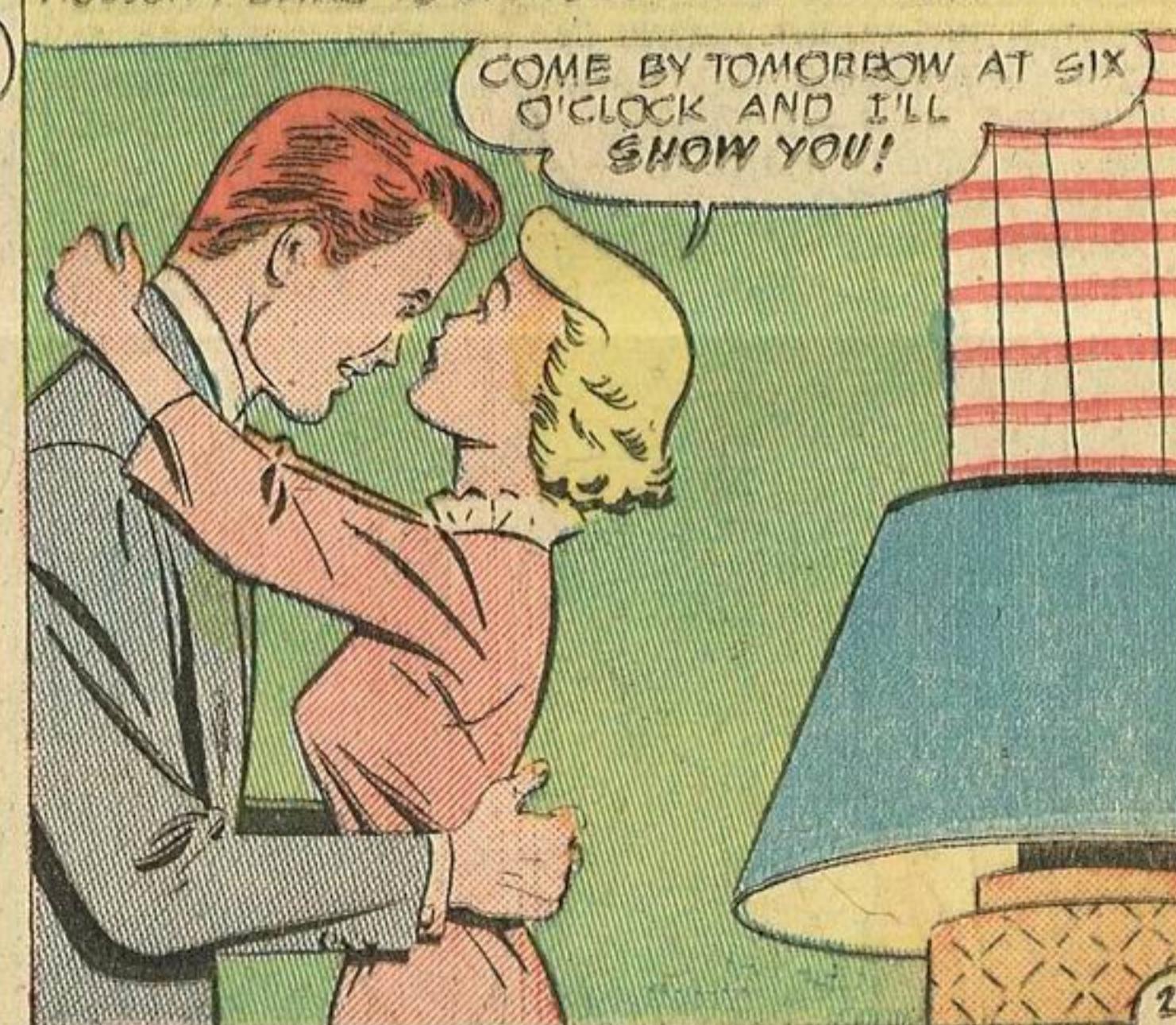


THEY'VE MADE YOU HELPLESS... DEPENDENT! I LOVE YOU, EVELYN, BUT I'M AFRAID YOU'RE STILL A LITTLE GIRL... NOT READY FOR MARRIAGE!



"IT WAS A SUDDEN PLAN! I'D CLEAN HOUSE, COOK DINNER, SERVE IT... ALL SO SMOOTHLY THAT JOHN WOULDN'T DARE TO CRITICIZE ME EVER AGAIN!"

COME BY TOMORROW AT SIX O'CLOCK AND I'LL SHOW YOU!



"I ASKED MOTHER TO WAKE ME EARLY THE NEXT DAY, BUT SHE DIDN'T HAVE THE HEART TO! AND WHEN I DID GET STARTED ON THE CLEANING..."

GOSH, I DON'T KNOW WHAT ALL THESE VACUUM THINGS ARE FOR! I'D BETTER READ THE INSTRUCTION BOOK OR SOMETHING!



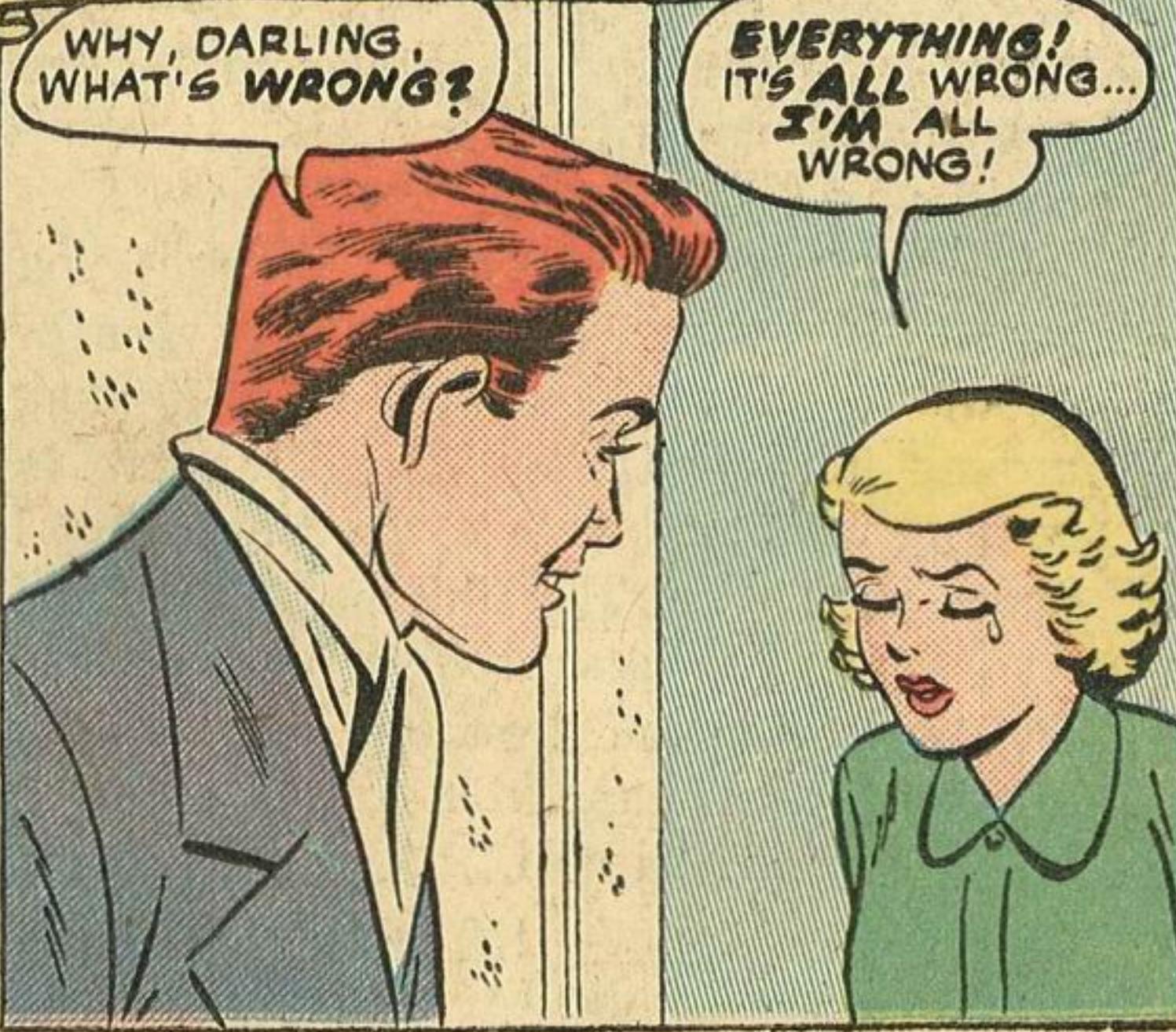
"I COULDN'T FIND THE INSTRUCTIONS AND TIME WAS FLYING! THEN... FRANTIC... I SUDDENLY REMEMBERED..."



"DINNER WAS HALF READY, THE HOUSE WAS HALF CLEANED, AND I WAS IN A STATE OF NERVOUS EXHAUSTION WHEN THE DOORBELL RANG!"



"AT THE SIGHT OF JOHN'S FACE, I BROKE DOWN COMPLETELY!"



I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING THAT'S THE FIRST I SAID I WOULD! YOU WERE STEP TOWARDS RIGHT, DARLING, I AM SUCCESS, ANGEL! HELPLESS! AND... AND IF YOU CAN CONFESS ALL I'M ASHAMED OF IT!

THAT, I KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A WOMAN AT HEART -- THE WOMAN I WANT TO MARRY!

"WITH JOHN'S HELP AND UNDERSTANDING, I'D COME THROUGH WITH FLYING COLORS! I PROMISED HIM THAT... AND MYSELF!"

YOU MEAN WE'RE REALLY LOSING OUR LITTLE GIRL AT LAST?

I WOULDN'T PUT IT THAT WAY! SHE'S GROWING UP! LET'S SAY... I'M GAINING A WIFE!



TWO AGAINST Romance!

HAVING A STRONG feeling that she was being stared at, Leslie brushed an auburn lock to one side and looked up from her book. Jim was staring at her, but he pretended not to be, averting his gaze and clearing his throat in affected casualness.

"All right, what is it?" Leslie asked her brother. "What's on your mind?"

"Oh, nothing! Nothing at all! Really nothing!"

"If you say it often enough, you might convince me! You might even convince yourself! Out with it, Jimmy!"

"Well," Jim smiled, "I thought you might like to go out to the movies or something, sis! You don't want to hang around here tonight. Mike Saunders is coming over and he's a good egg, but I know you! You'll think he's dull and find a lot of things wrong with his looks and accuse me of dredging up the most unholy specimens from college days! So be a good girl and..."

Leslie regarded her brother through greenish eyes narrowed with suspicion. "This is the *fourth* time you've tried to get me out of this house tonight!" she said. "This Michael Saunders must be an unbelievable horror! So if you don't mind, brother dear, I'll just stay put!"

Leslie turned to her book once more, but she found herself unable to concentrate on it. This friend of Jim's... how bad could he be? And why was Jim so interested in preventing their meeting? Well, whatever his brotherly motives might be, she'd soon be able to see for herself!

When the doorbell rang, Leslie, being closer to the door, said sweetly,

"I'll get it!"

"How do you do, I'm Jim's sis..." Leslie stopped in mid-greeting and gasped. "Why you...you're *handsome!*" she blurted. And then like a little girl who had said something wrong, she clapped her hand over her mouth.

"You're Jim's sister!" Mike's statement seemed more of an accusation. "But you're *lovely!* Your hair's *not* orange-red at all, it's..."

"Auburn," Leslie graciously finished for him. "Won't you come in, please? I feel there are a few questions we'd both like to ask Jimmy!"

But brother Jim was nowhere in sight, and so Leslie and Mike had the living room all to themselves, with much to talk about. "I stayed to see why Jim said you were...well...not attractive!" Leslie explained.

"He told me *you* were a desperate old maid!" Mike laughed.

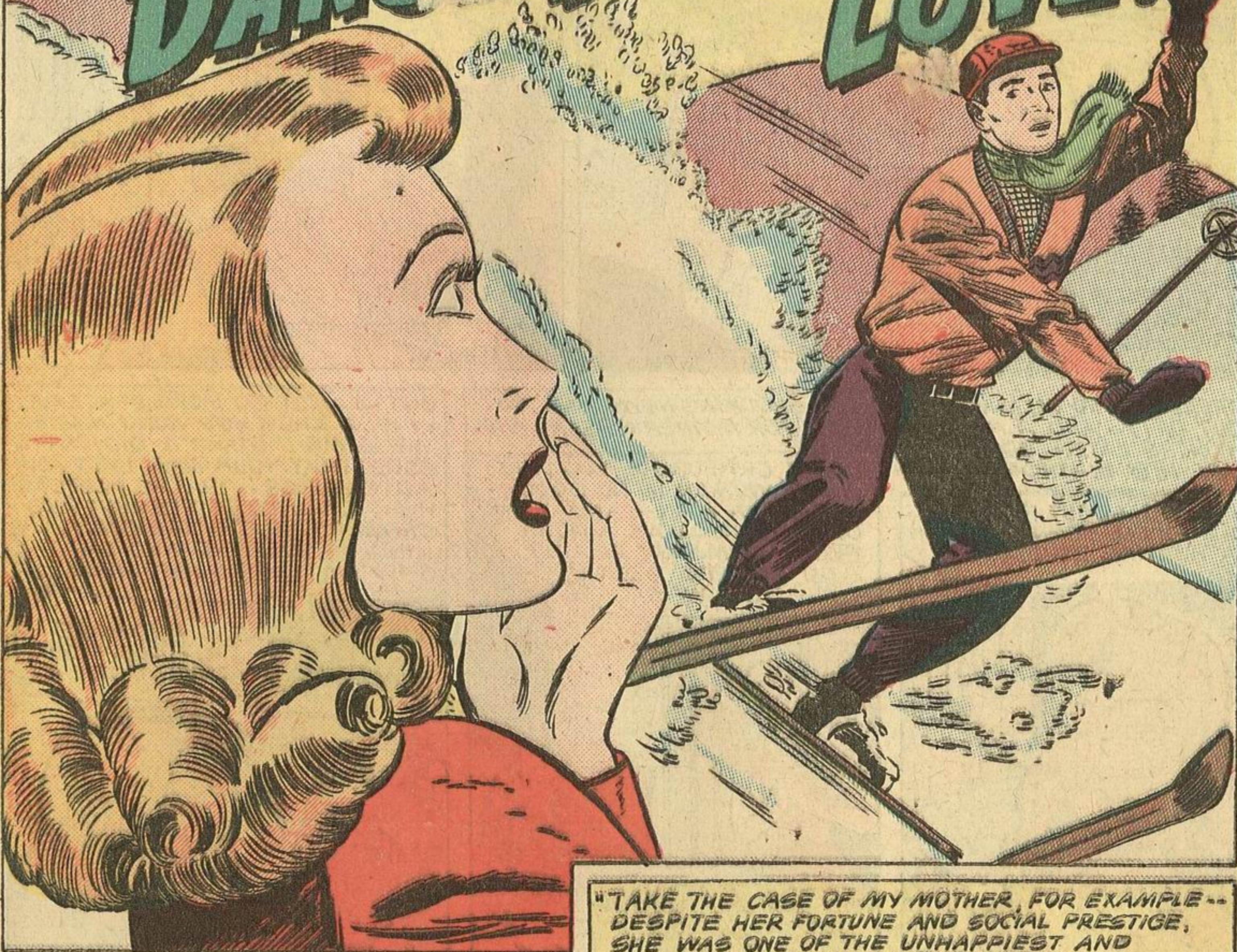
"Why, the no-good..." Leslie's lips pouted adorably and Mike found himself looking at them with great interest. The hours winged by like minutes. They seemed to have so much to say to each other.

And close to midnight, when they had run out of words, they found it wasn't necessary to talk! Jim, cautiously poking his head into the living room door, saw his beloved sister being soundly, roundly, thoroughly kissed by his friend Mike, and loving it!

Jim winked and remarked to no one in particular, "It was a tough job, getting the two most stubborn characters in the world together... but...it worked!"

EVERYONE KNOWS THAT MALES ARE THE MORE ADVENTUROUS OF THE SEXES --- AND WOE BETIDE THE GIRL WHO FORGETS THAT AND TRIES TO ENFORCE A HUMDRUM EXISTENCE ON HER SWEETHEART! HERE'S THE PULSE-STIRRING STORY OF ONE GIRL WHO THOUGHT SHE COULD DICTATE A MAN'S LIFE --- BECAUSE SHE FEARED HE WAS...

100% DANGEROUS ^{to} LOVE!!

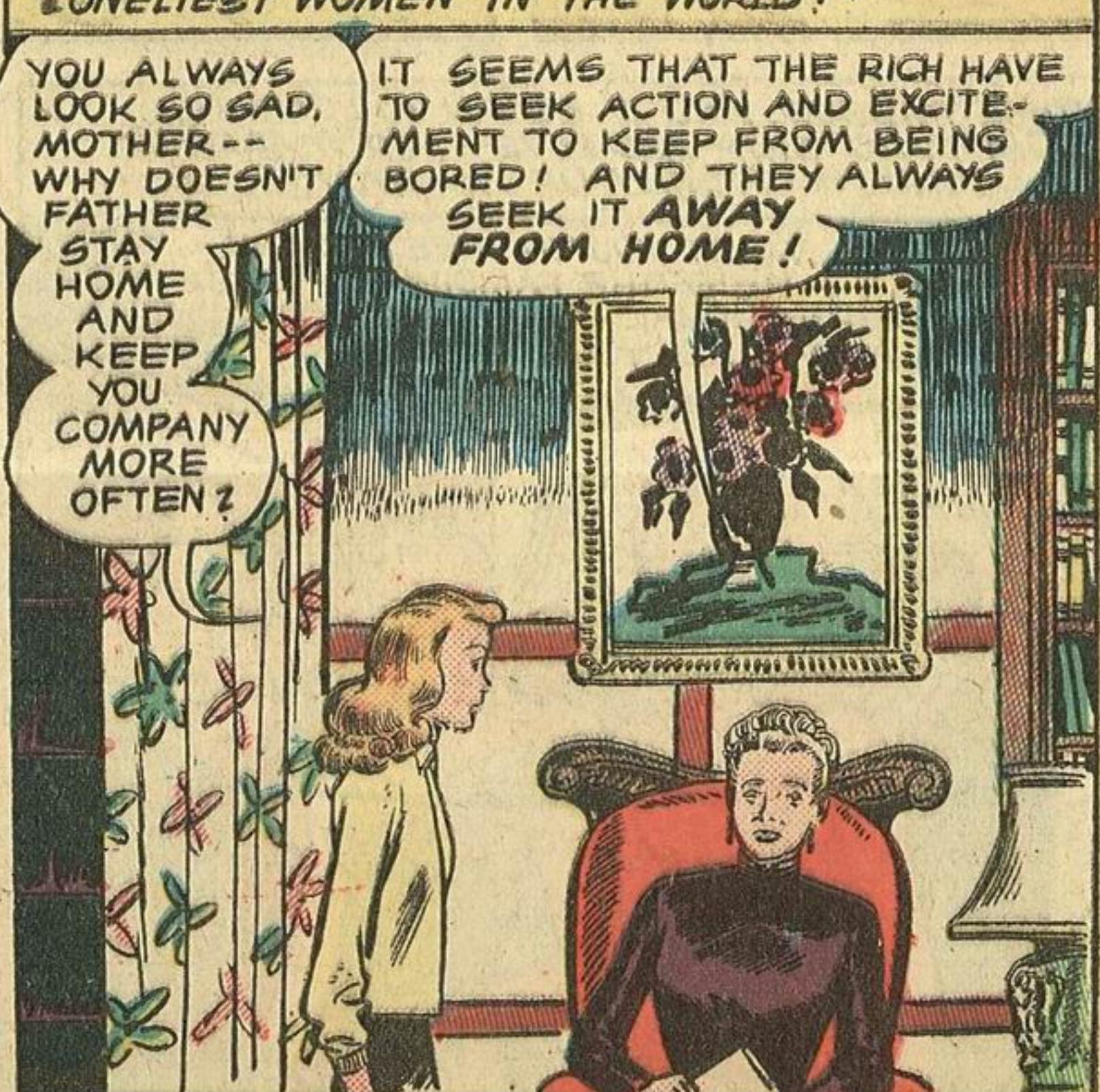


I'M SURE YOU RECOGNIZE ME, READERS --- EVERYONE KNOWS BRENDAN BUTTON, SOCIETY'S LEADING DEBUTANTE! BUT DON'T ENVY ME BECAUSE I'M RICH --- FOR WEALTH CAN'T MEND A BROKEN HEART! YOU'VE HEARD THAT BEFORE -- NOW LET ME PROVE THAT IT'S TRUE!

"TAKE THE CASE OF MY MOTHER, FOR EXAMPLE --- DESPITE HER FORTUNE AND SOCIAL PRESTIGE, SHE WAS ONE OF THE UNHAPPIEST AND LONELIEST WOMEN IN THE WORLD!"

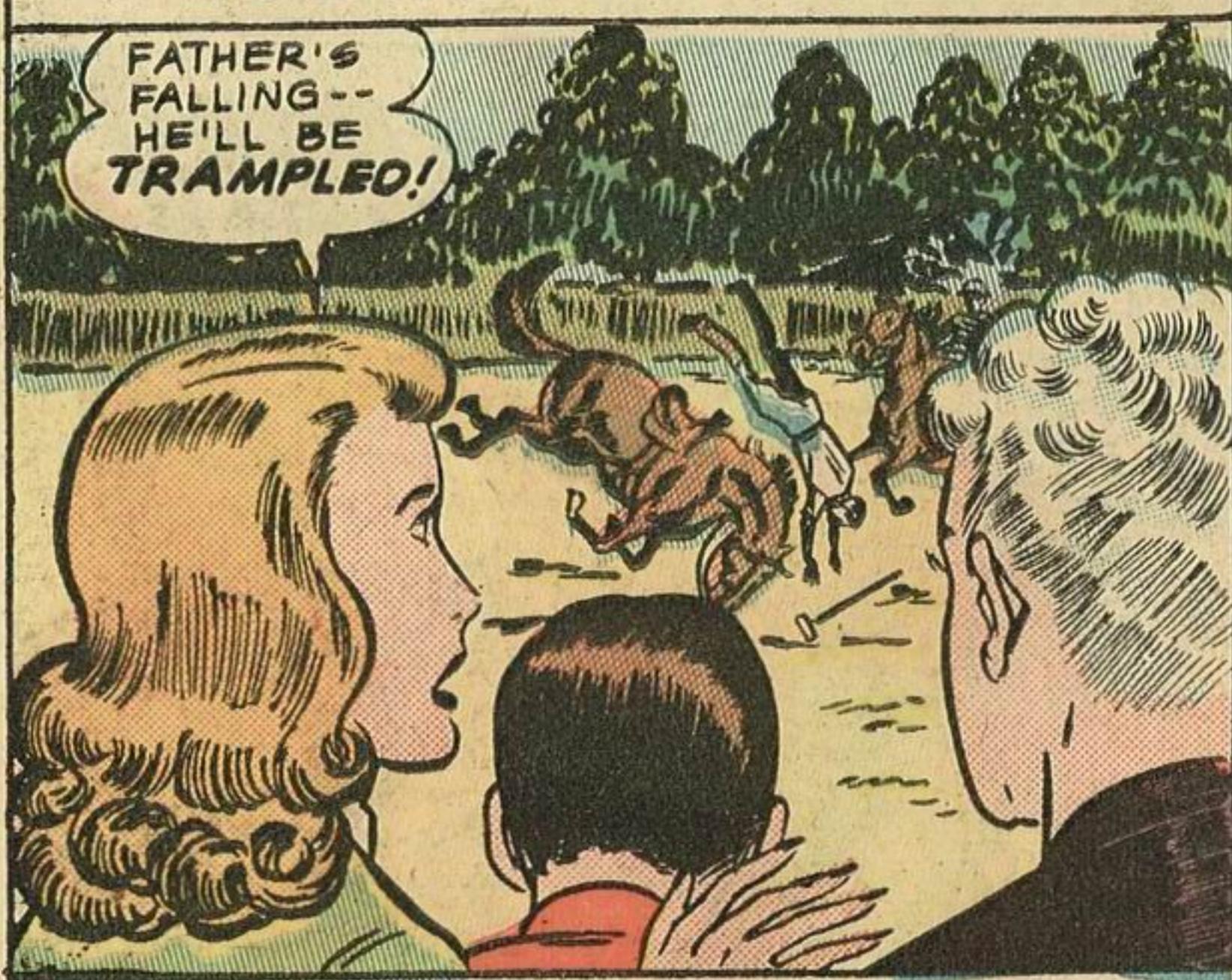
YOU ALWAYS LOOK SO SAD, MOTHER -- WHY DOESN'T FATHER STAY HOME AND KEEP YOU COMPANY MORE OFTEN?

IT SEEMS THAT THE RICH HAVE TO SEEK ACTION AND EXCITEMENT TO KEEP FROM BEING BORED! AND THEY ALWAYS SEEK IT AWAY FROM HOME!



"YES, THAT WAS MY FATHER-- ALWAYS SEARCHING FOR EXCITEMENT AND RISKING HIS NECK IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER!"

FATHER'S FALLING-- HE'LL BE TRAMPLED!



MAYBE NOW YOU'LL START BEHAVING SENSIBLY, RANDOLF-- AND START STAYING HOME!

NONSENSE! BEING LAID UP LIKE THIS IS DRIVING ME BATTY WITH BOREDOM! AS SOON AS MY LEG IS HEALED, I'M GOING TO ORGANIZE ANOTHER SAFARI INTO THE CONGO!



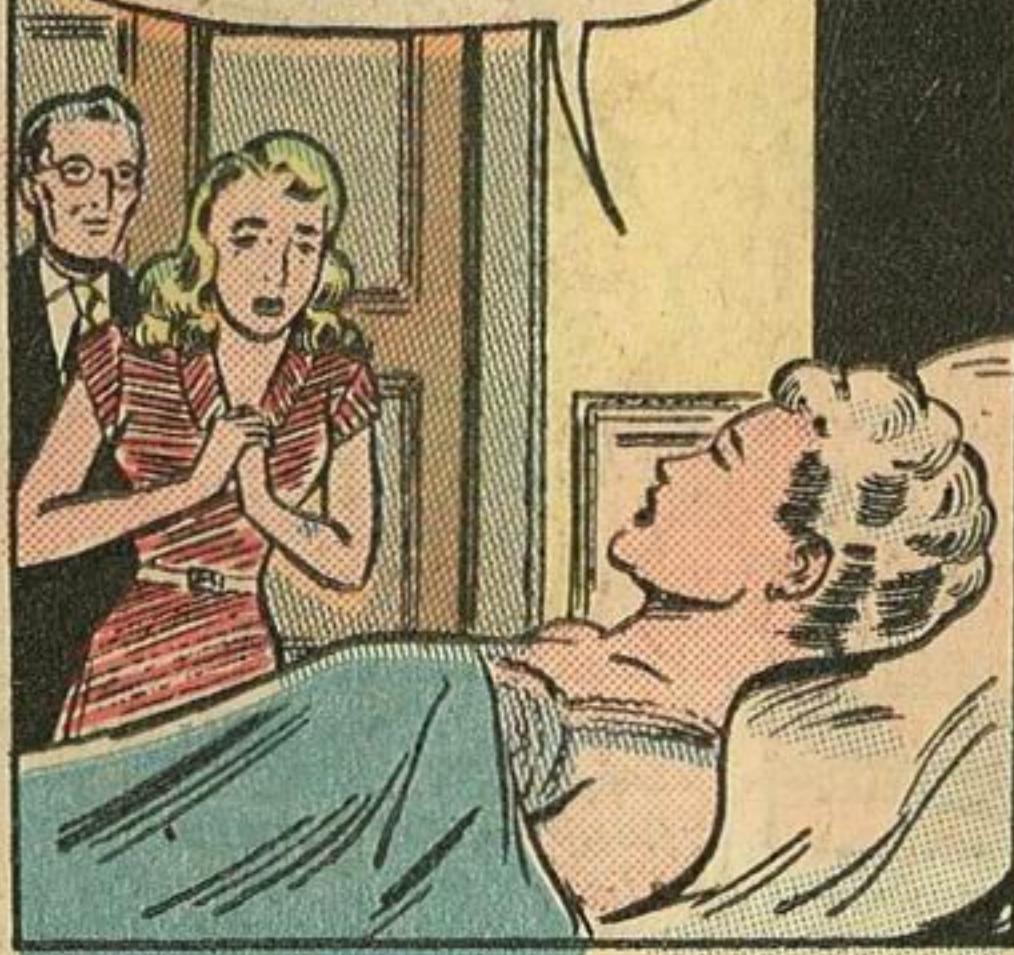
"THERE WAS NO TALKING HIM OUT OF IT-- AND A FEW MONTHS LATER, SOON AFTER MY 18TH BIRTHDAY..."

"IT-- IT'S ABOUT FATHER... HE-- HE'S BEEN KILLED IN A HUNTING EXPEDITION!"



"THE SHOCKING NEWS WAS TOO MUCH FOR MOTHER'S HEART, AND...

DON'T CRY FOR ME, DARLING! A... A WOMAN IS NO GOOD WITHOUT A MAN-- AND I COULD NEVER LOVE ANYONE ELSE OR MARRY AGAIN! SO IT-- IT'S BEST THIS WAY!



BUT I... I'LL GO MORE PEACEFULLY IF I KNOW YOU WON'T MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE I DID! MAKE SURE THAT YOUR MAN ISN'T AN ADVENTURER-- THAT HE PREFERS HIS FAMILY TO EXCITEMENT AND DANGER! THAT'S THE ONLY KIND OF HUSBAND WHO CAN GIVE YOU LASTING HAPPINESS!

I... I PROMISE I'LL FOLLOW YOUR ADVICE, MOTHER!



"TIME PASSED, AND I BEGAN TO LONG FOR COMPANIONSHIP AND LOVE-- FOR MARRIAGE AND A FAMILY OF MY OWN..."

BRENDA, I WANT YOU TO MEET FRANK WESTCOTT! HE'S THE FAMOUS EXPLORER AND INTERNATIONAL POLO STAR, YOU KNOW-- JUST LIKE YOUR FATHER!



"JUST LIKE MY FATHER! I KNEW I COULDN'T AFFORD TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIM, NO MATTER HOW MUCH HE APPEALED TO ME..."

WILL YOU-- 'EXCUSE ME, MR. WESTCOTT? I'VE GOT-- A HEADACHE!

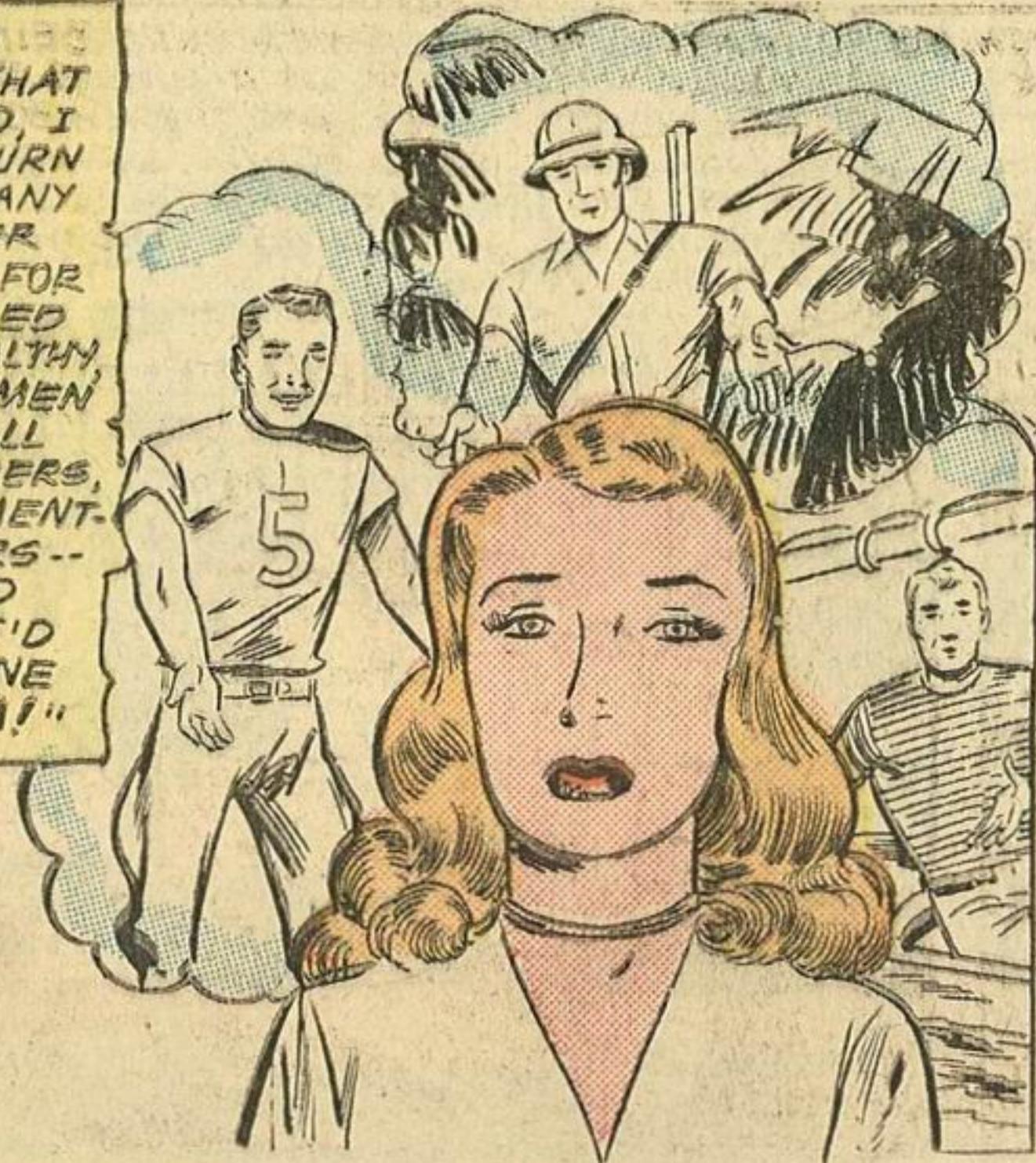




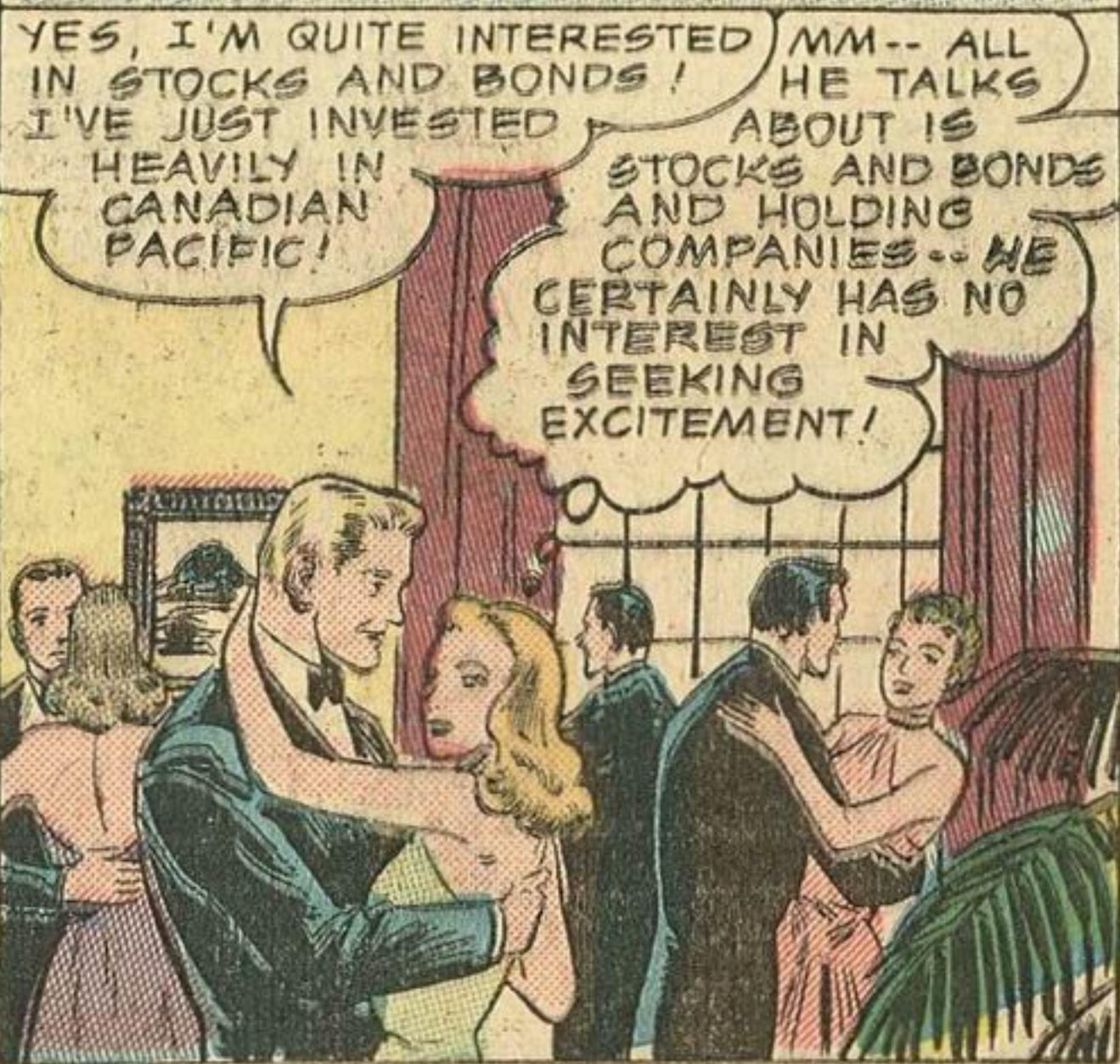
"AND DAYS LATER, I WAS FLYING OVER THE MAJESTIC, TOWERING ALPS! WHERE THERE WAS BEAUTY-- WOULD I FIND LOVE?"



"IN THE MONTHS THAT FOLLOWED, I HAD TO TURN DOWN MANY AN EAGER SUITOR! FOR IT SEEMED THAT WEALTHY, ELIGIBLE MEN WERE ALL ADVENTURERS, EXCITEMENT-SEEKERS-- AND I'D VOWED I'D HAVE NONE OF THEM!"



"BUT FINALLY CAME ARISTOCRATIC PETER RUTHERFORD--A MAN WHO SEEMED TO MEET ALL MY QUALIFICATIONS!"



"BUT IN THE EVENINGS, HE'D STOP THINKING OF HOLDING COMPANIES-- AND THINK ONLY OF HOLDING ME!"

BRENDA--YOU... YOU'RE UTTERLY LOVELY!

THIS IS THE ROMANCE I'VE BEEN LONGING FOR!



"OUR LIPS MET AND CLUNG! FIERCELY, I TOLD MYSELF THAT HIS KISSES DID THRILL ME-- AND THAT THE WILD ECSTASY AND RAPTURE I'D READ ABOUT WOULD COME LATER, WHEN I LEARNED TO LOVE HIM MORE..."

DARLING, I LOVE YOU-- WILL YOU BE MY WIFE?

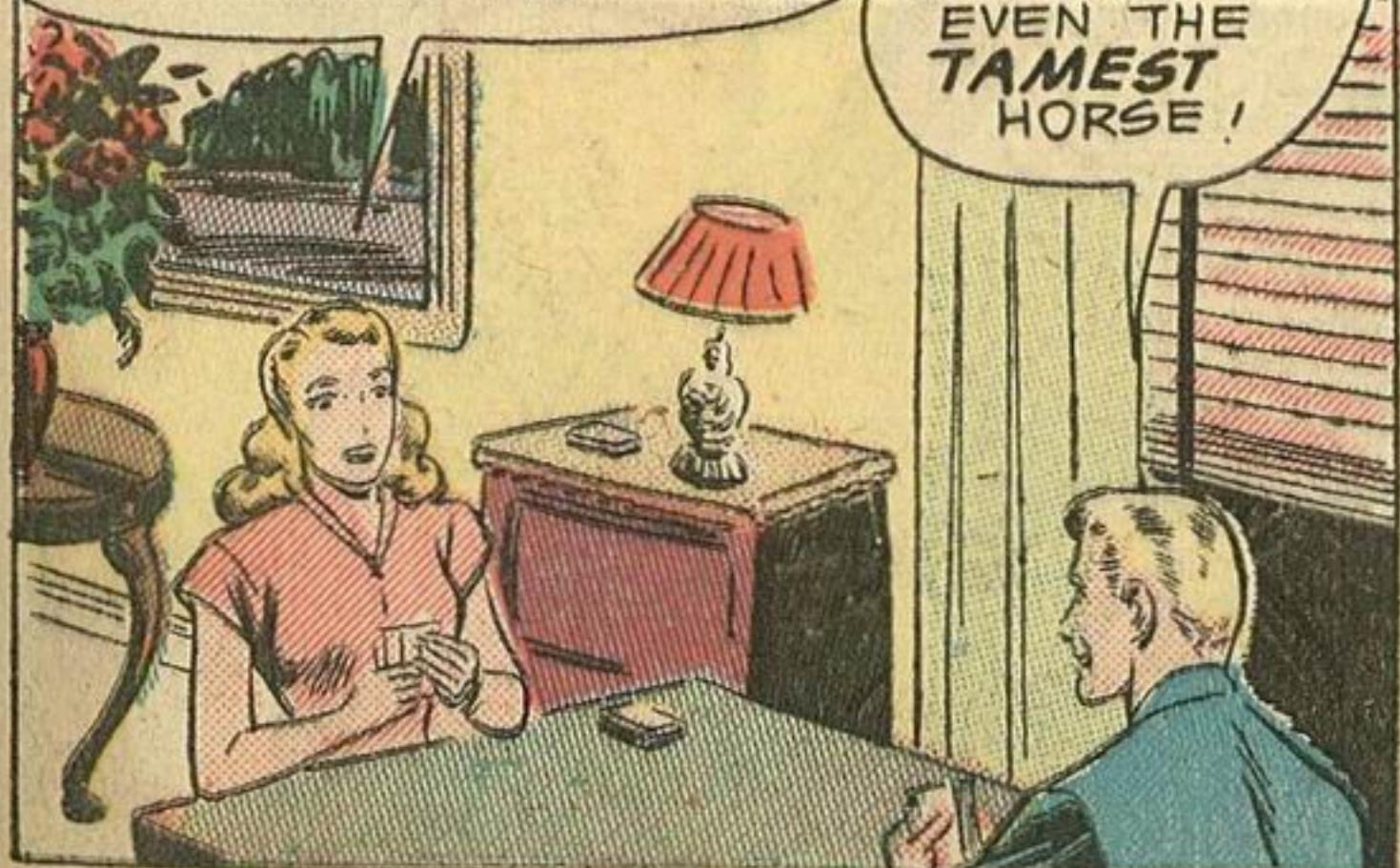
ALL... ALL RIGHT, PETER!



"BUT THE ONE THING I WAS SURE ABOUT WAS THAT PETER WASN'T THE ADVENTUROUS TYPE! OCCASIONALLY, I FOUND THAT BEING WITH HIM WAS RATHER DULL-- AND WHENEVER I SUGGESTED SOMETHING TO LIVEN THINGS UP..."

LET'S GO FOR A HORSEBACK RIDE TOMORROW, DEAR! WE CAN PICK OUT SOME TAME, DOCILE HORSES, AND--

WHAT? I NEVER GO RIDING-- ONE CAN FALL OFF EVEN THE TAMEST HORSE!



"I KNEW I SHOULD HAVE BEEN GLAD THAT HE WAS SO CAUTIOUS! BUT DOUBTS GNAWED AWAY AT MY MIND-- WAS HE JUST CAUTIOUS-- OR WAS HE A COWARD? THE DAY FINALLY CAME WHEN I KNEW THE ANSWER!"

I'M SORRY I LET YOU TALK ME INTO TAKING A WALK THROUGH CENTRAL PARK, BRENDA! WHY, I MIGHT SLIP ON THIS ICY GROUND--

LOOK, PETER-- THAT GIRL! YOU'VE GOT TO SAVE HER!

HELP!



"I LEARNED THAT THE MAN WHO HAD STIRRED ME SO WAS ROBERT CASWELL--HEIR TO THE CASWELL OIL MILLIONS--AND ONE OF THE MOST MAGNIFICENT SKI-JUMPERS IN THE WORLD!"

HE'S WONDERFUL--AND HE'S GOING TO BE MINE--OR MY NAME ISN'T BRENDA SUTTON! I KNOW JUST HOW TO GO ABOUT MEETING HIM--FAST!

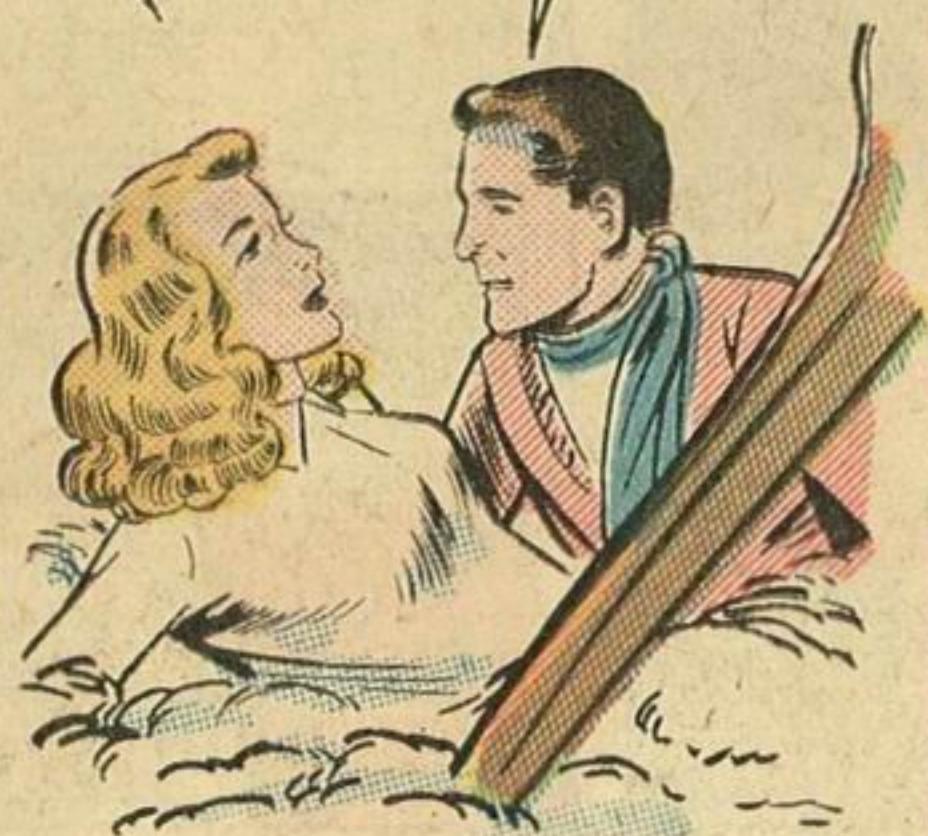
"TIMING MY MOVES CAREFULLY, I LET THE WIND BLOW MY HAT ONTO THE SKI-RUNWAY--JUST AS ROBERT CASWELL CAME HURTLING DOWN IT..."



I...I'M SO SORRY--IT WAS ALL MY FAULT!

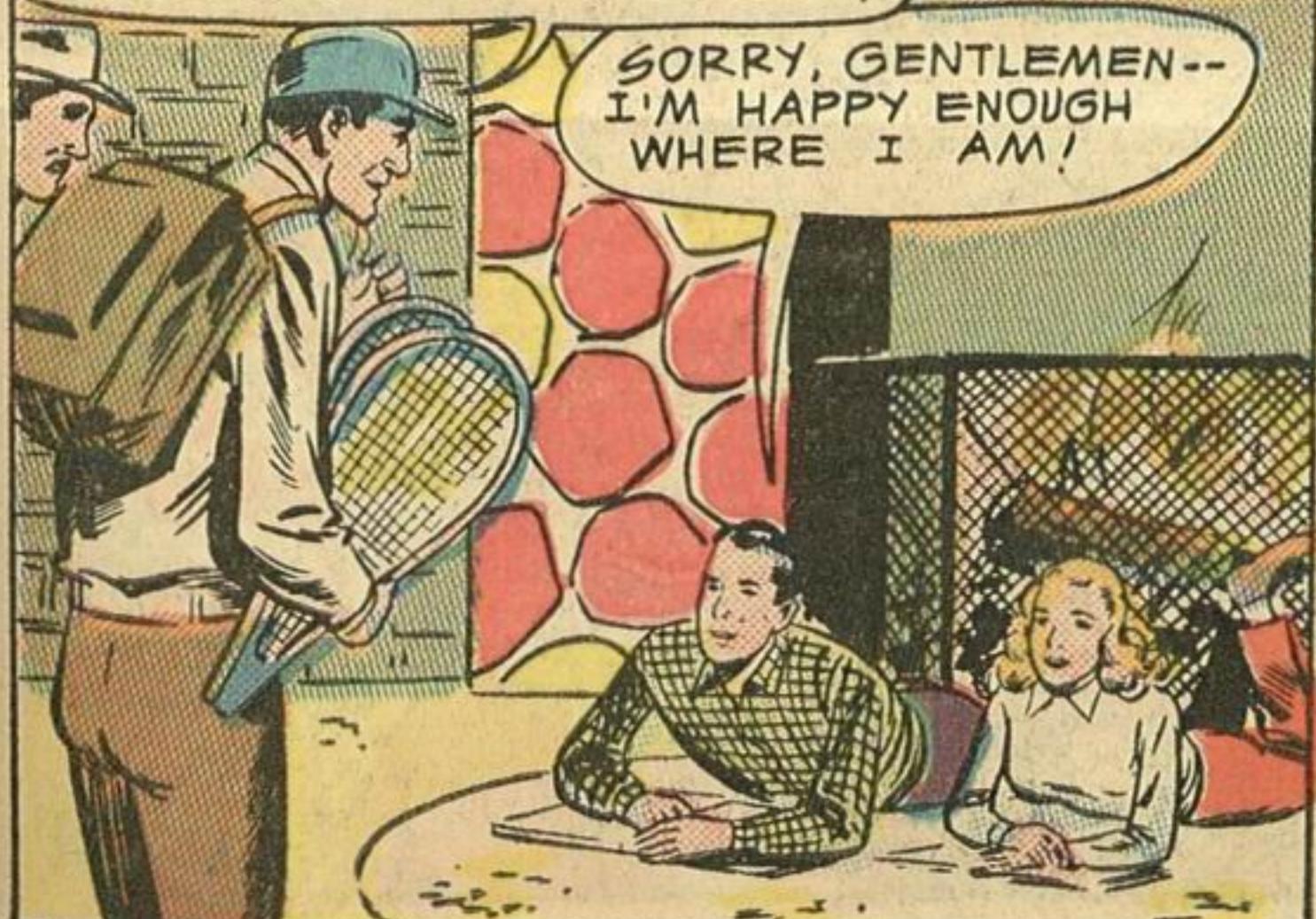
DON'T APOLOGIZE--IT WAS A PLEASURE TO BE STOPPED BY SOMEONE AS LOVELY AS YOU! AND I'M GOING TO SEE TO IT THAT OUR FUTURE MEETINGS AREN'T ACCIDENTAL!

"FROM THAT MOMENT ON, WE WERE INSEPARABLE! WE SPENT ALL OUR DAYS AND EVENINGS TOGETHER--AND GRADUALLY, THE FLAMES OF OUR ROMANCE LEAPED HIGHER AND HIGHER..."



"AND EXULTATION GREW IN ME AS INCIDENTS LIKE THIS MADE ME REALIZE THAT AN ADVENTUROUS MAN COULD BE CHANGED INTO A HOME-LOVING ONE..."

I SAY, CASWELL, WE'RE GOING TO TACKLE THE SOUTH FACE OF MT. BLANC--HOW ABOUT JOINING US FOR THE CLIMB?



SORRY, GENTLEMEN--I'M HAPPY ENOUGH WHERE I AM!

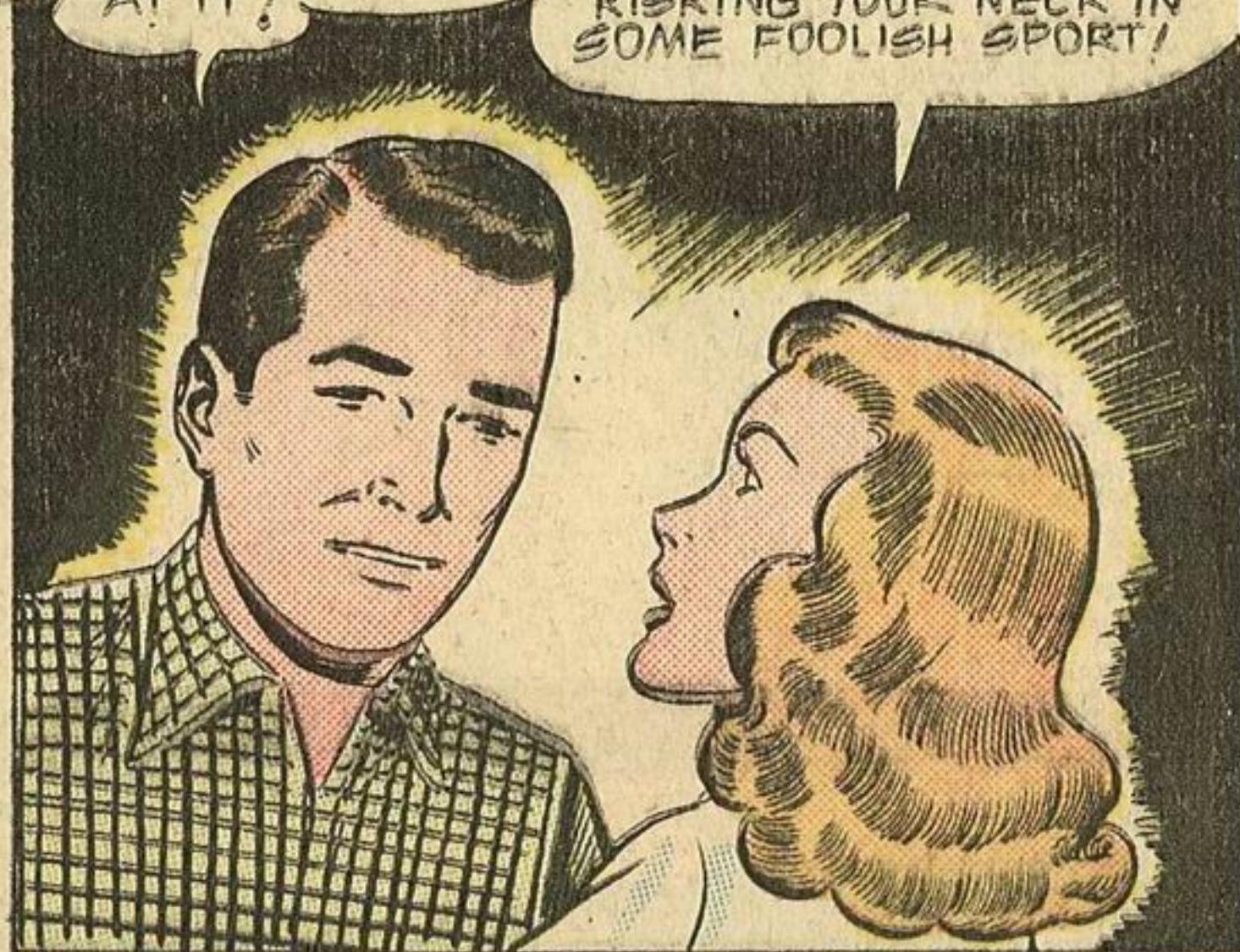
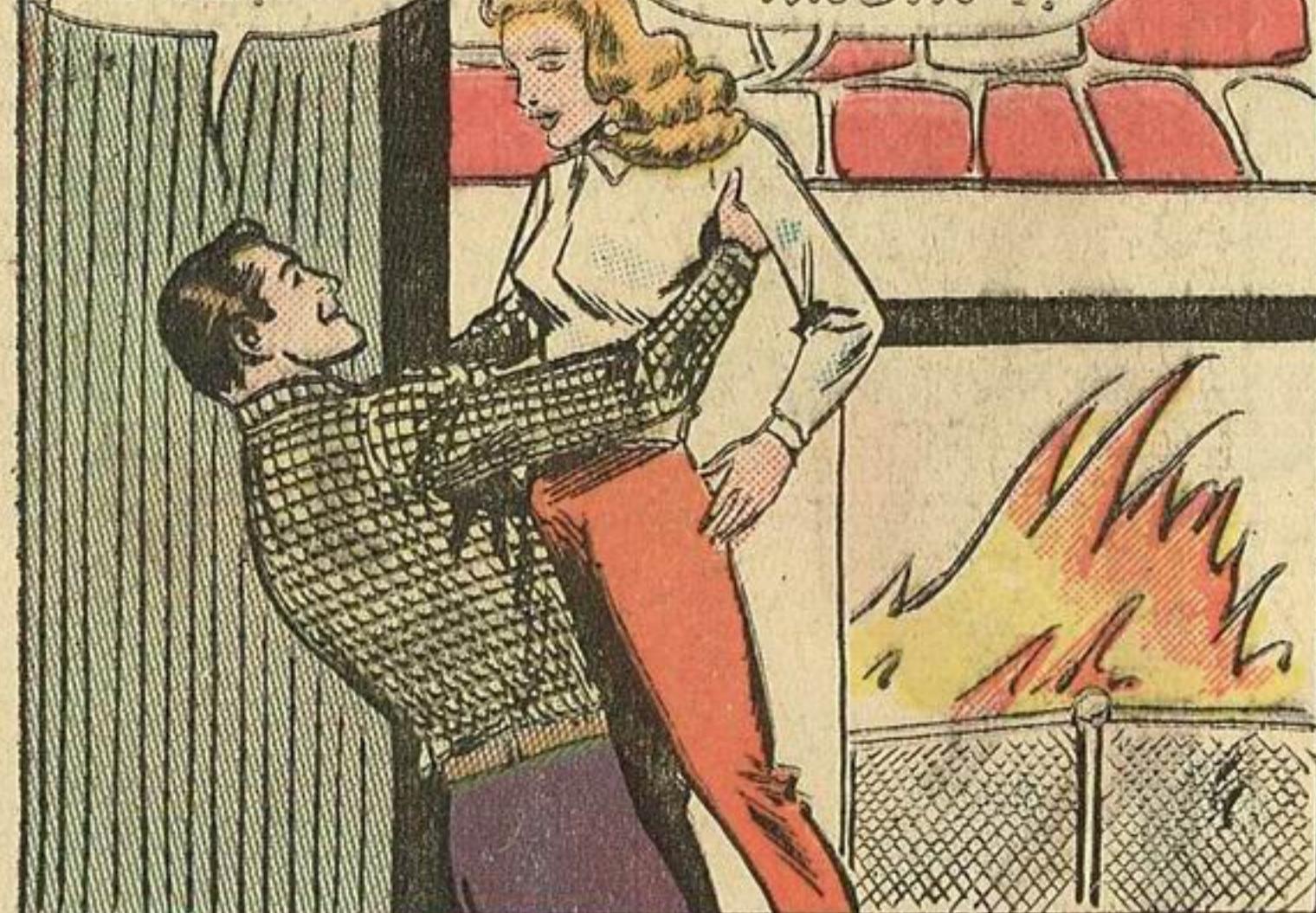
"THEN, THE MOMENT THAT PROVED WE WERE MEANT FOR EACH OTHER--THE KISS THAT LIFTED ME TO THE EXALTED HEIGHTS OF ECSTASY AND LOVE..."



"I FEEL LIKE SHOUTING TO THE WHOLE WORLD
THAT WE'RE IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER! AND
WHEN I FEEL LIKE CELEBRATING, I ALWAYS
WORK IT OFF BY SKI-JUMPING!
BUT THIS TIME
YOU'LL
BE AT MY
SIDE!"

"BUT WHY NOT, SWEETHEART?
YOU TOLD ME YOURSELF THAT
YOUR FATHER TAUGHT YOU TO
SKI AT LAKE PLACID AND
SUN VALLEY!... AND THAT
YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD
AT IT!"

"IT'S NOT THAT-- I
JUST NEVER WANT
TO GO SKI-JUMPING
AGAIN! NOW THAT I
KNOW HOW MUCH I LOVE
YOU, I DON'T WANT YOU
RISKING YOUR NECK IN
SOME FOOLISH SPORT!"



"HE ARGUED
ABOUT IT, OF
COURSE-- BUT
I REMAINED
ADAMANT!
AND FINALLY,
WHEN I
RESORTED
TO TEARS,
HE WEAKENED--
AND I WON!!!

"YOU... YOU--
DON'T REALLY
LOVE ME--
IF YOU CAN
QUARREL
WITH ME
LIKE
THAT!"

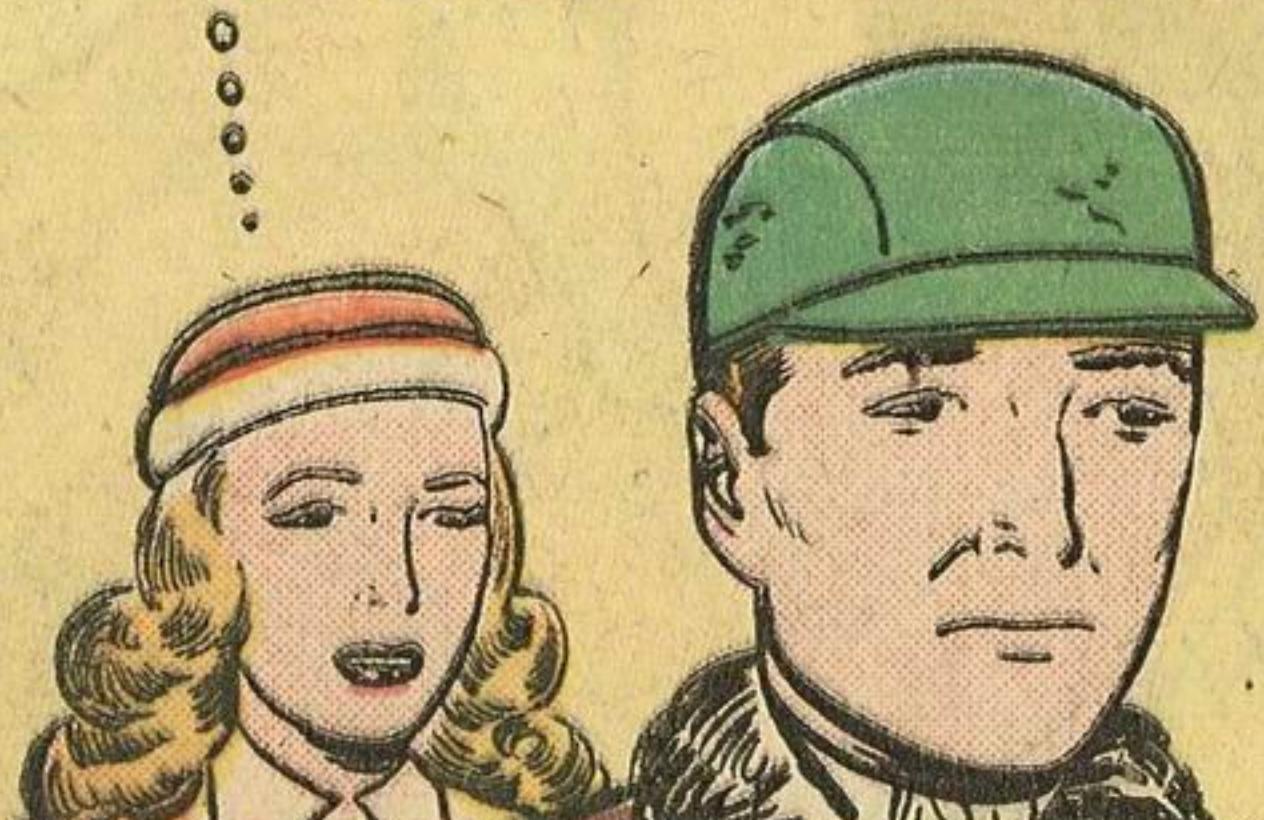
"DON'T CRY,
DARLING--
I... I WON'T
GO SKI-JUMPING
IF IT UPSETS
YOU THAT
MUCH!"



"HE TURNED WHITE, BUT HE DIDN'T ANSWER OR
TRY TO ARGUE WITH ME! I FELT SURE THAT
I HAD WON! BUT AS THE DAYS PASSED..."

HE SEEKS SO UNHAPPY-- KEEPS LOOKING
OFF INTO THOSE MOUNTAINS AS IF HE
LONGS TO BE UP THERE! BUT HE'LL GET
OVER IT-- HE'LL NEVER PREFER HIS
MOUNTAINS AND SKI-JUMPS TO ME!

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"BUT I KNEW THAT MY VICTORY WASN'T COM-
PLETTE-- AND I WAS READY FOR THE NEXT
OUTBURST WHEN IT CAME..."

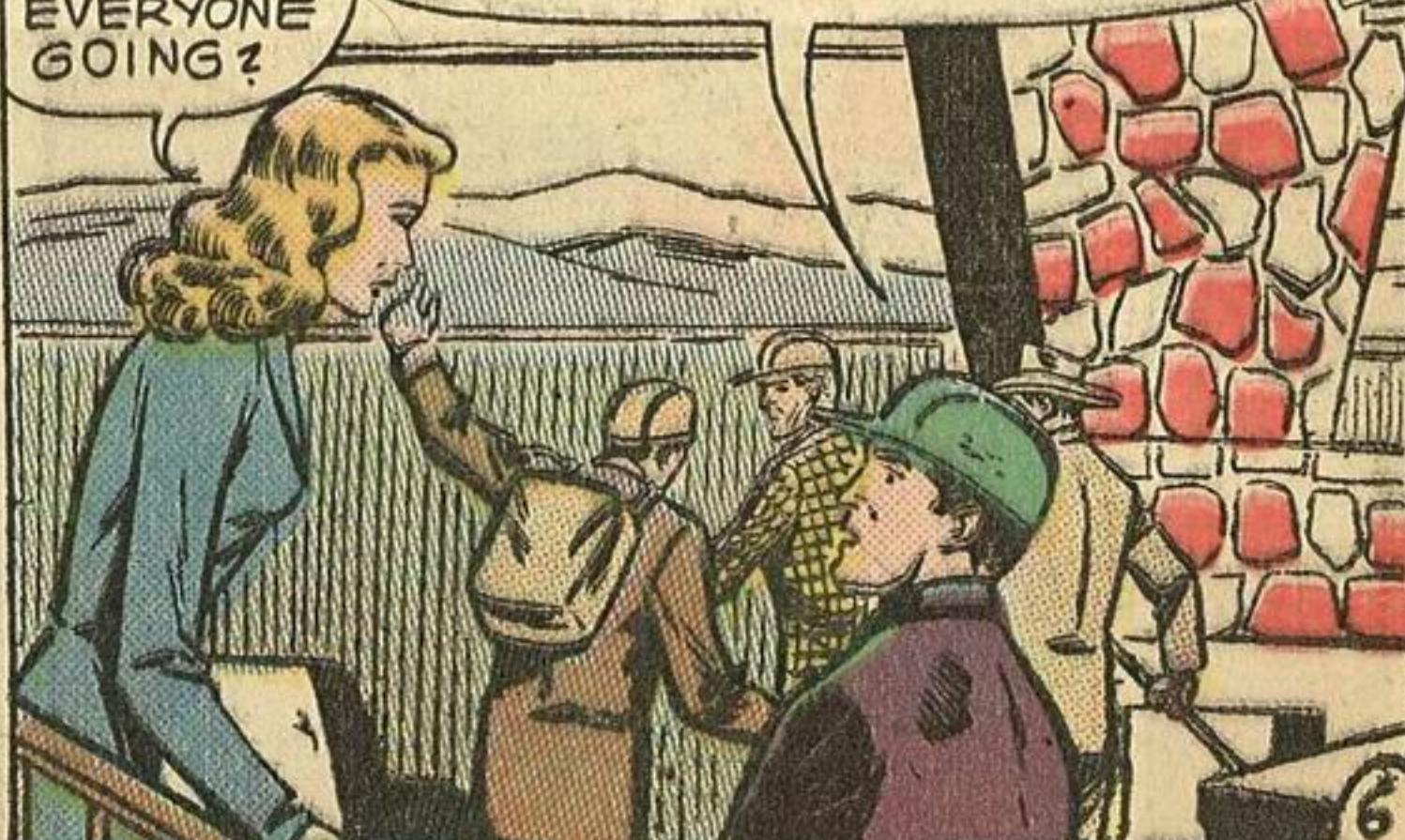
"THEY'RE GOING OUT NO-- MOUNTAIN-CLIMBING IS
ON A MOUNTAIN-CLIMBING PARTY,
DARLING-- JUST A SMALL RIDGE--
SO LET'S HURRY AND JOIN THEM!"



"THE PROBLEM WAS SOLVED TEMPORARILY BY A
WEEK-LONG BLIZZARD WHICH VIRTUALLY
MAROONED US IN THE CHATEAU-- BUT WHEN THE
SNOW STOPPED ON THE EIGHTH MORNING..."

WHAT'S
ALL THE
ACTIVITY
ABOUT,
BOB--
WHERE'S
EVERYONE
GOING?

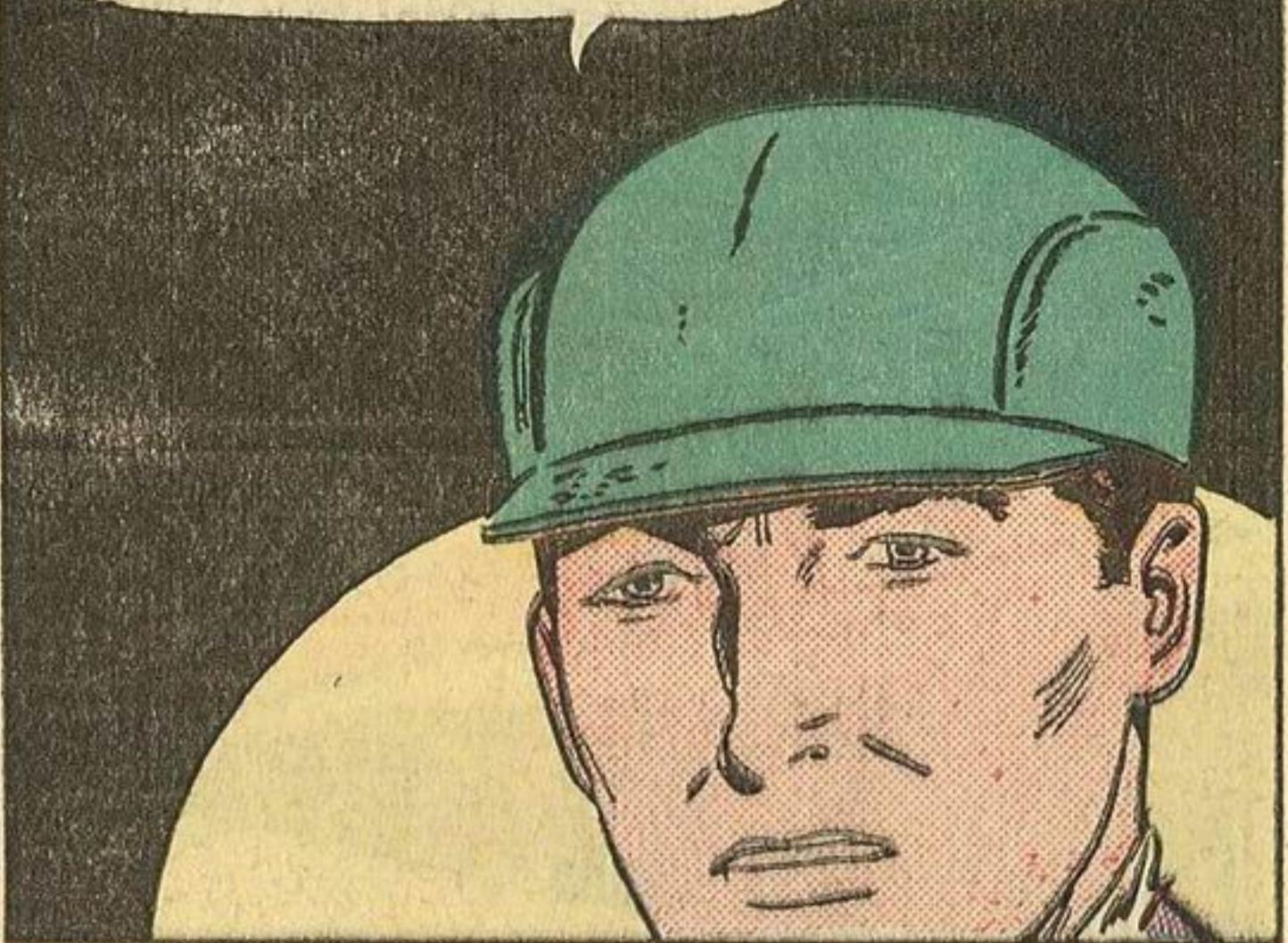
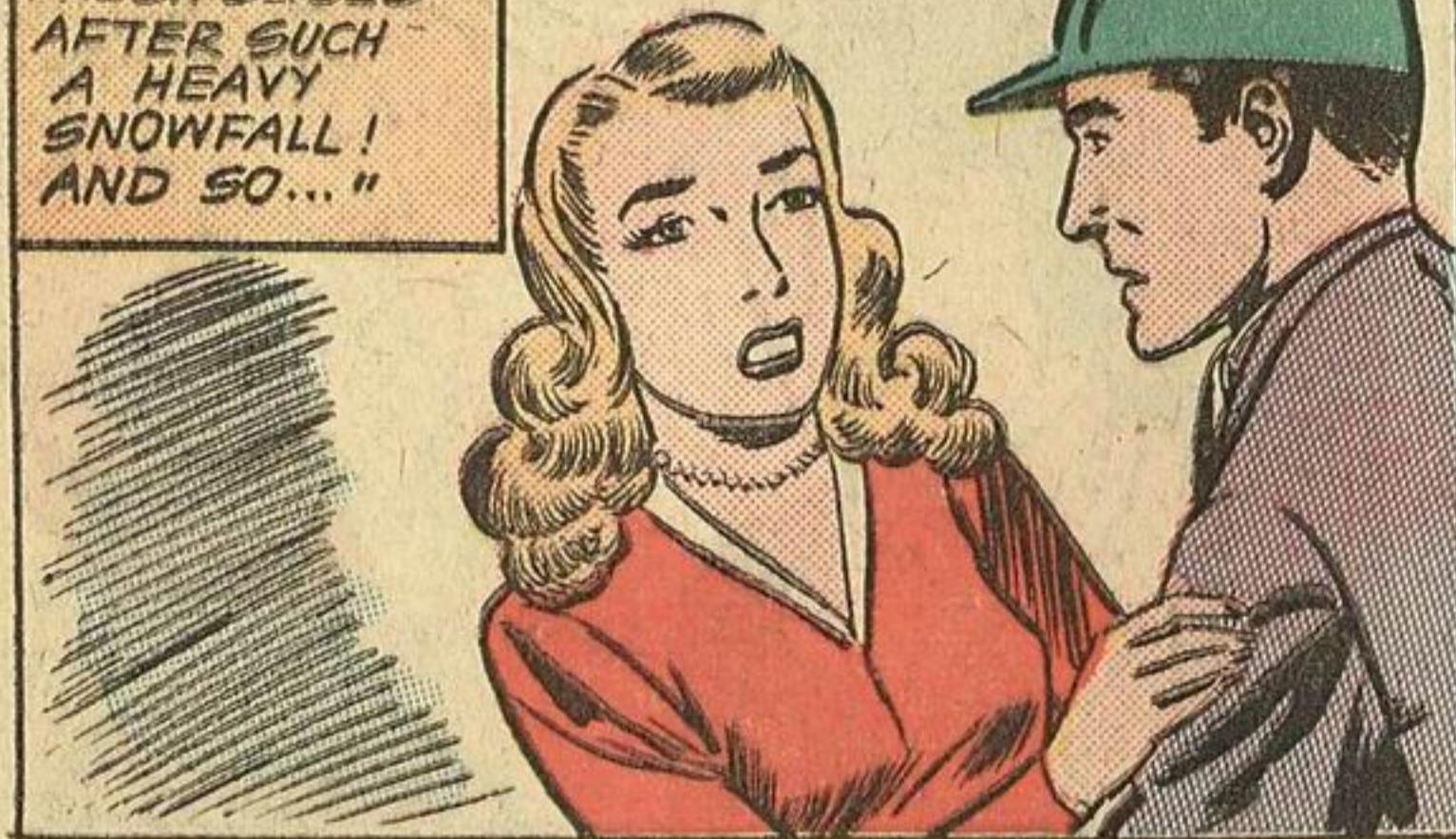
THERE'VE BEEN SOME SERIOUS
avalanches down in the valley--
WE'RE MAKING UP A RESCUE
PARTY TO REACH SOME OF THE
TRAPPED VICTIMS! AND I'M
LEADING THE PARTY!



"AVALANCHE! THE DREAD WORD STRUCK FEAR INTO MY HEART, FOR I KNEW THAT THE RESCUE PARTY WOULD BE IN CONSTANT DANGER OF FRESH SLIDES AFTER SUCH A HEAVY SNOWFALL! AND SO..."

I... I FORBID YOU TO GO, ROBERT-- IT'S TOO DANGEROUS! YOU FORBID ME, EH? YOU WANT TO TIE ME TO YOUR APRON STRINGS, TO MAKE ME FORGET I'M A MAN.. BUT IT WON'T WORK!

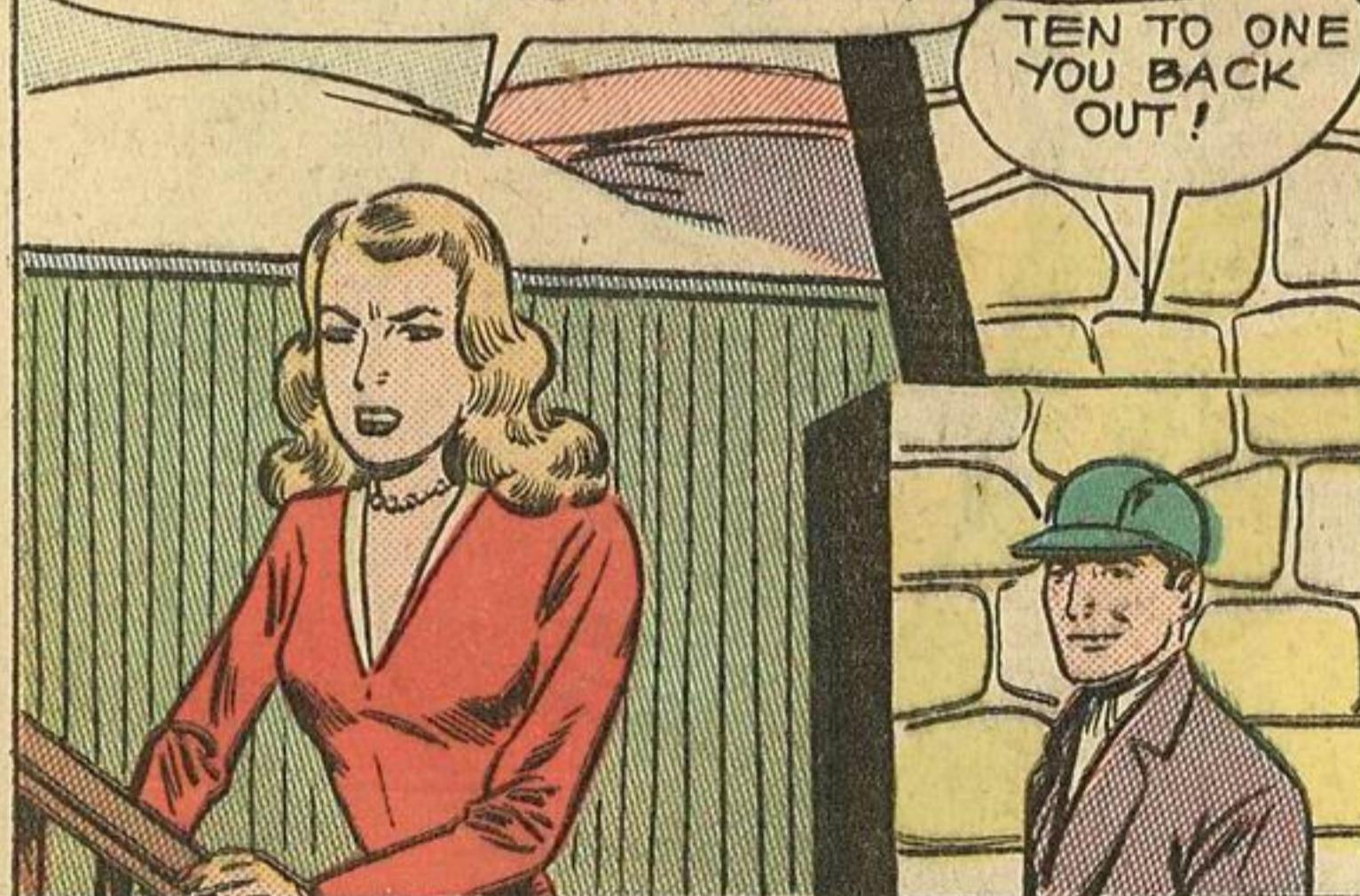
WE'RE NOT RIGHT FOR EACH OTHER-- BECAUSE I WANT A WIFE WHO'LL MATCH ME IN COURAGE, WHO'LL FACE LIFE UNAFRAID! DANGER MERELY HEIGHTENS THE AWARENESS AND THE JOY OF LIFE-- AND ANYONE WHO'S AFRAID OF IT ISN'T REALLY ALIVE! I'M THROUGH WITH YOU!



"ENRAGED AT BEING THUS SCORNED, I KNEW ONLY ONE THING-- THAT I HAD TO MAKE ROBERT CASWELL EAT HIS WORDS!"

SO YOU THINK I'M A COWARD! I'LL SHOW YOU-- I'M GOING WITH THAT RESCUE PARTY! AND WHEN I COME BACK-- I'M LEAVING THIS PLACE AND YOU FOR GOOD!

TEN TO ONE YOU BACK OUT!



"BUT MY DANDER WAS UP, AND I WENT THROUGH WITH IT!"

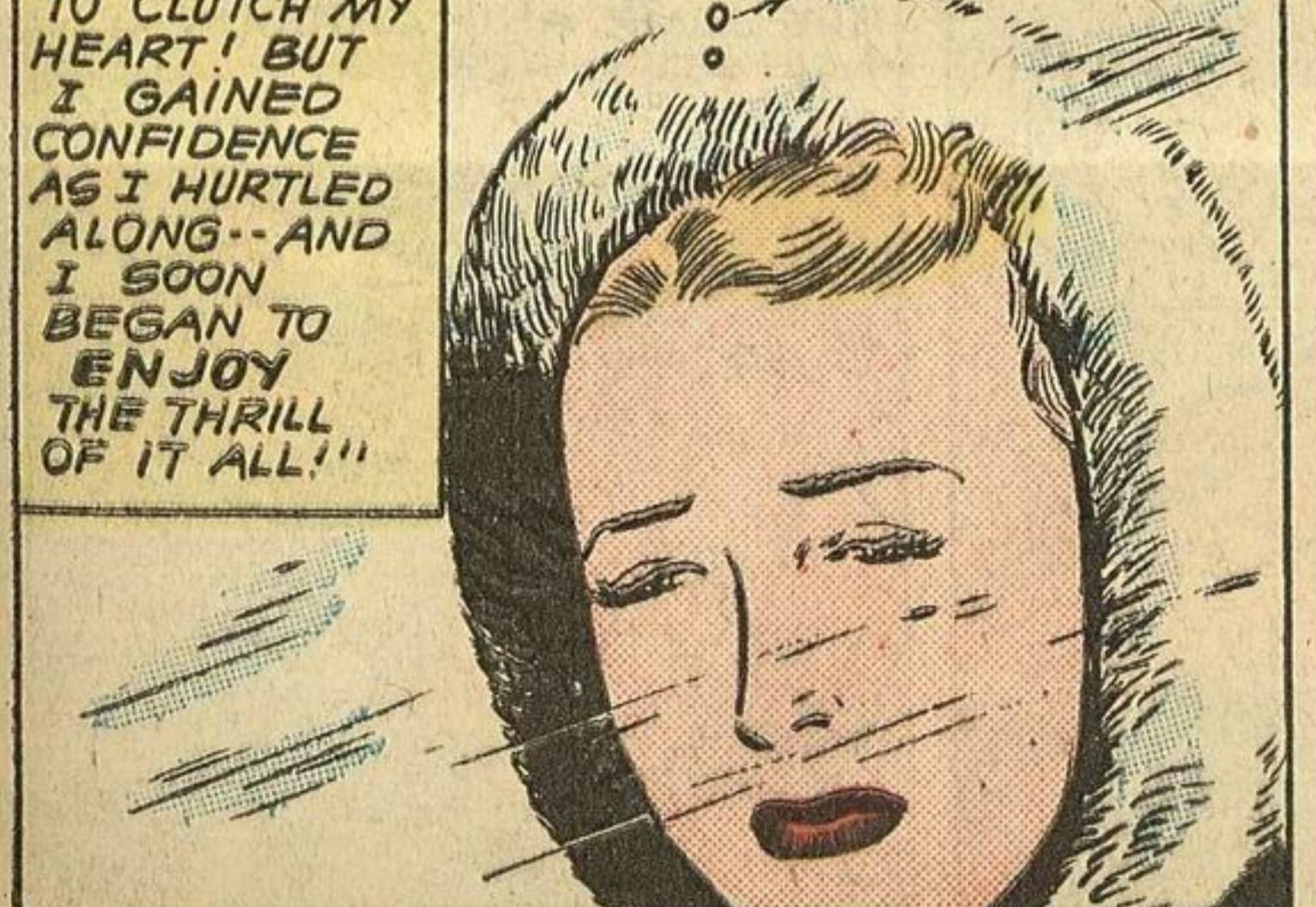
BETTER LET ME HOLD YOUR HAND-- IT'S A PRETTY STEEP SLOPE!

DON'T TOUCH ME.. I CAN MANAGE WITHOUT YOUR HELP!



"DOWN THE SLOPE WE SPED-- FASTER AND FASTER-- AND ICY FINGERS OF FEAR BEGAN TO CLUTCH MY HEART! BUT I GAINED CONFIDENCE AS I HURTLED ALONG-- AND I SOON BEGAN TO ENJOY THE THRILL OF IT ALL!"

NOW I KNOW WHAT BOB MEANT! I SHOULD NEVER HAVE TRIED KEEPING HIM FROM IT!



"FINALLY..." THERE'S ONE OF THE HOUSES SWAMPED BY THE AVALANCHE-- BUT THE MOUNTAIN SLIDE MUST HAVE OPENED UP THAT WIDE CREVASSE! AS LEADER OF THE EXPEDITION-- I'LL MAKE THE JUMP!



WE'LL PEG DOWN A LONG ROPE ON THIS SIDE, AND I'LL MAKE THE JUMP, CARRYING THE OTHER END OF THE ROPE TO THE FURTHER SIDE! I'LL FASTEN IT THERE, AND THE REST OF YOU CAN SWING ACROSS, CARRYING MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND FOOD ON YOUR BACKS!

YOU'RE RIGHT, BOB-- IT'S THE ONLY WAY-- AND YOU'RE THE ONLY MAN WHO CAN MAKE THAT JUMP! IF YOU CAN'T, NO ONE CAN!

WELL, IS THERE A UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF MY PLAN, MISS SUTTON?

Y-YES, BUT DON'T MISS-- PLEASE!



"MOMENTS LATER, WHILE I KEPT MY EYES CLOSED IN FEAR, AFRAID TO LOOK..."

HE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH ROOM TO PICK UP SPEED-- IT'S GOING TO BE TOUCH AND GO!



"AS I OPENED MY EYES IN HORROR..."

OH-- BOB! HE DROPPED THE ROPE! HE'S NOT GOING TO MAKE IT!



"FOR ONE TERRIFYING MOMENT, I WATCHED BOB TOTTER ON THE VERY BRINK OF CATASTROPHE-- BUT THEN, AS HIS FINGERS CAUGHT AND HELD..."

HE'S PULLING HIMSELF UP!



I THINK I BROKE MY ANKLE-- GO ON BACK TO THE CHATEAU FOR A HARPOON GUN-- AND SHOOT A ROPE ACROSS!

HE'S JUST SAYING THAT BECAUSE HE DOESN'T WANT ANY OF US TO TRY THE JUMP! BY THE TIME WE COULD GET BACK WITH THE GUN-- HE'D FREEZE TO DEATH!



"HORROR CONSTRICTED MY HEART-- I COULDN'T LET ROBERT DIE! IT WAS THEN THAT I GOT MY GREAT IDEA!"

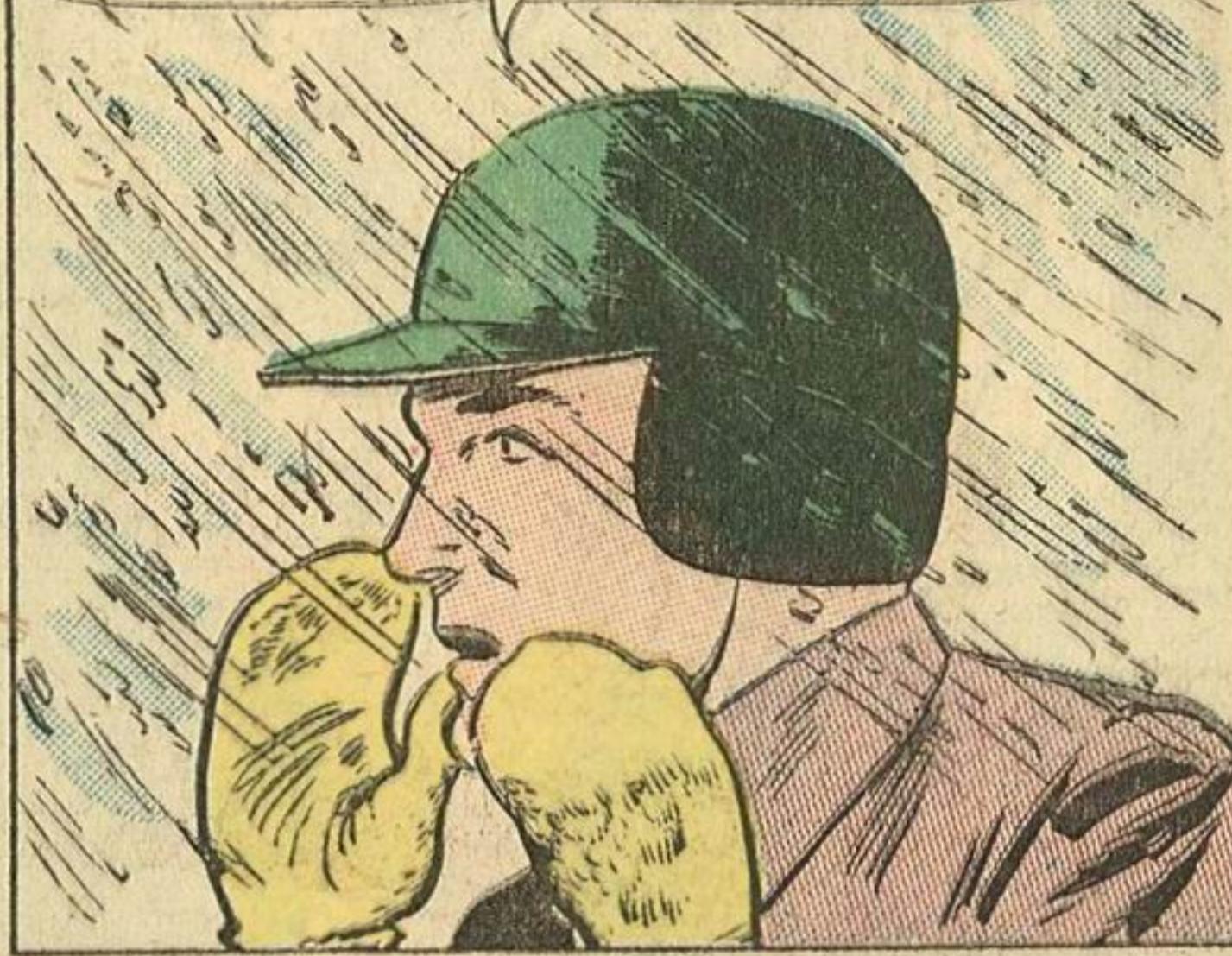
THE WIND IS BLOWING TOWARDS HIM! I'M LIGHT ENOUGH-- AND WITH ENOUGH TAIL WIND AND A LITTLE LUCK, I MIGHT MAKE THE JUMP AND CARRY A ROPE ACROSS!



"THEY TRIED TALKING ME OUT OF IT, BUT I WAS DETERMINED TO SAVE ROBERT'S LIFE.. OR JOIN HIM IN DEATH! DOWN THE STEEP SLOPE I WENT-- SPEEDING TOWARD THE FAINT SOUND OF HIS VOICE..."

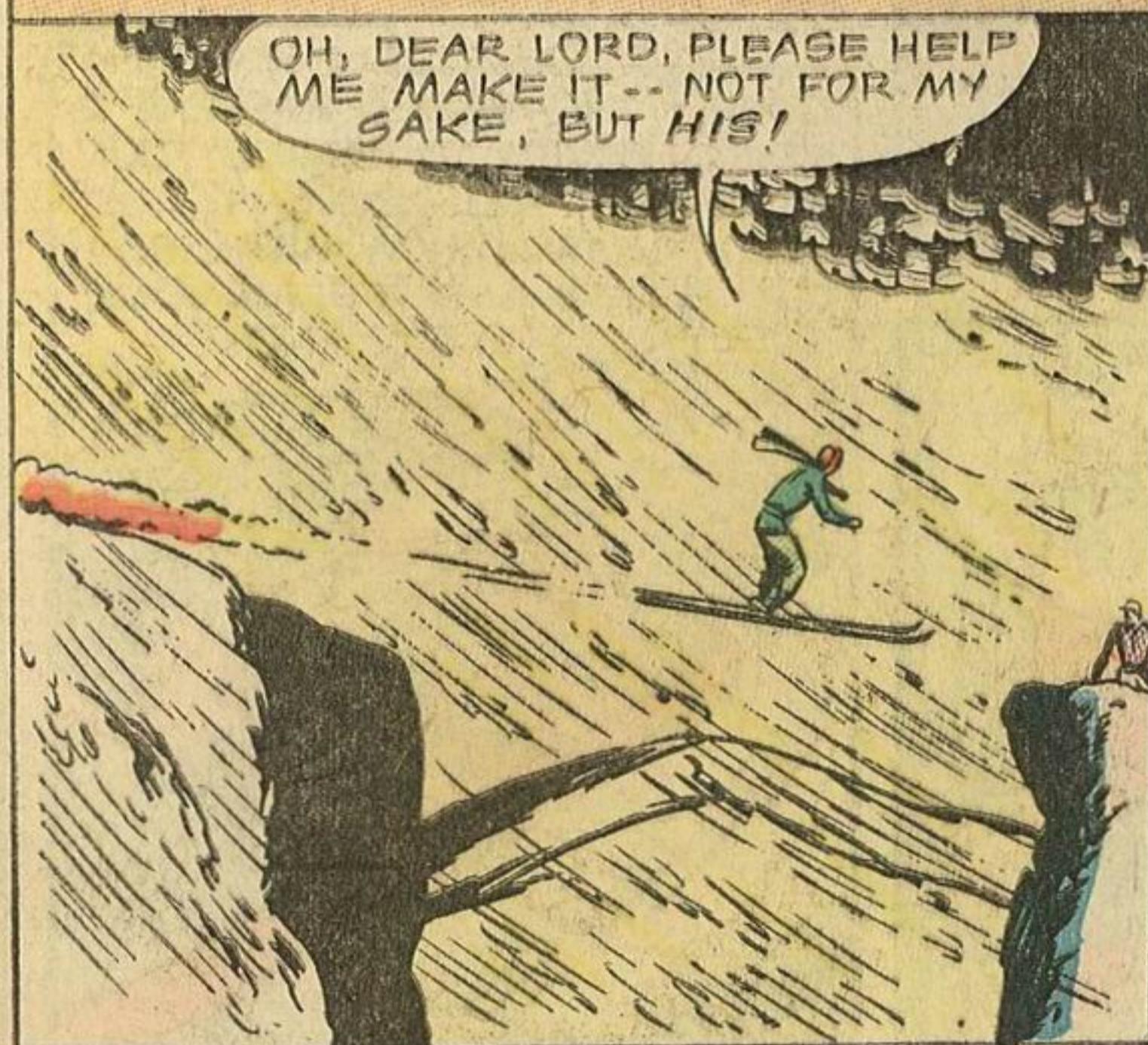


SHE... SHE PROBABLY CAN'T HEAR ME-- AND IT'S TOO LATE TO STOP HER NOW ANYWAY! SHE'S GOT TO MAKE IT-- I... I LOVE HER SO-- I COULDNT LIVE WITHOUT HER! NOW I UNDERSTAND HOW SHE MUST FEEL WHEN I'M RISKING MY LIFE!



"OVER THE TERRIFYING DROP OF THE CREVASSSE..."

OH, DEAR LORD, PLEASE HELP ME MAKE IT-- NOT FOR MY SAKE, BUT HIS!



"STRONG ARMS GRASPED ME-- PULLING ME ONTO SOLID GROUND-- AND THEN ENFOLDED ME IN AN ARDENT EMBRACE! HIS LIPS FOUND MINE-- AND SWEET ECSTASY WAS OURS ONCE AGAIN!"

WE'LL NEVER QUARREL AGAIN! WHAT HAPPENED TODAY HELPED ME UNDERSTAND YOUR POINT OF VIEW, DARLING-- AND I'LL NEVER TRY KEEPING YOU BACK AGAIN!

OH, DARLING, DARLING!

MY LOVE!

YOU WON'T HAVE TO, BRENDA-- BECAUSE THOSE TORMENTING MOMENTS WHEN YOU WERE IN DANGER MADE ME UNDERSTAND YOUR VIEWPOINT! I'LL NEVER RISK MY LIFE UNNECESSARILY AGAIN-- I'LL JUST BE A HOME-LOVING MAN--

AND A WIFE-LOVING HUSBAND!



IS HE "SICK and TIRED?"

HE'S JUST SLIPPED AN ENGAGEMENT RING ON HER FINGER! FOR THESE TWO, A LIFE OF LOVE AND KISSES IS ABOUT TO START! BUT NOW THAT SHE'S GOT HER MAN...



BUT AS TIME GOES ON, HER "THOUGHTFULNESS" TURNS INTO SOMETHING ELSE...

I'M SORRY, HONEY, BUT THE POST OFFICE WAS CLOSED WHEN I GOT THERE!

I ASKED YOU TO GET THE STAMPS FIRST THING TODAY! NOW THESE INVITATIONS WILL GO OUT LATE! IF I DON'T DO THINGS, THEY NEVER GET DONE!



...THERE'S A NEW SOMETHING IN HER ATTITUDE!

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR HAT... AND YOUR GLOVES, DEAR! AND HERE'S DAD'S SCARF... IT'S TURNING CHILLY!

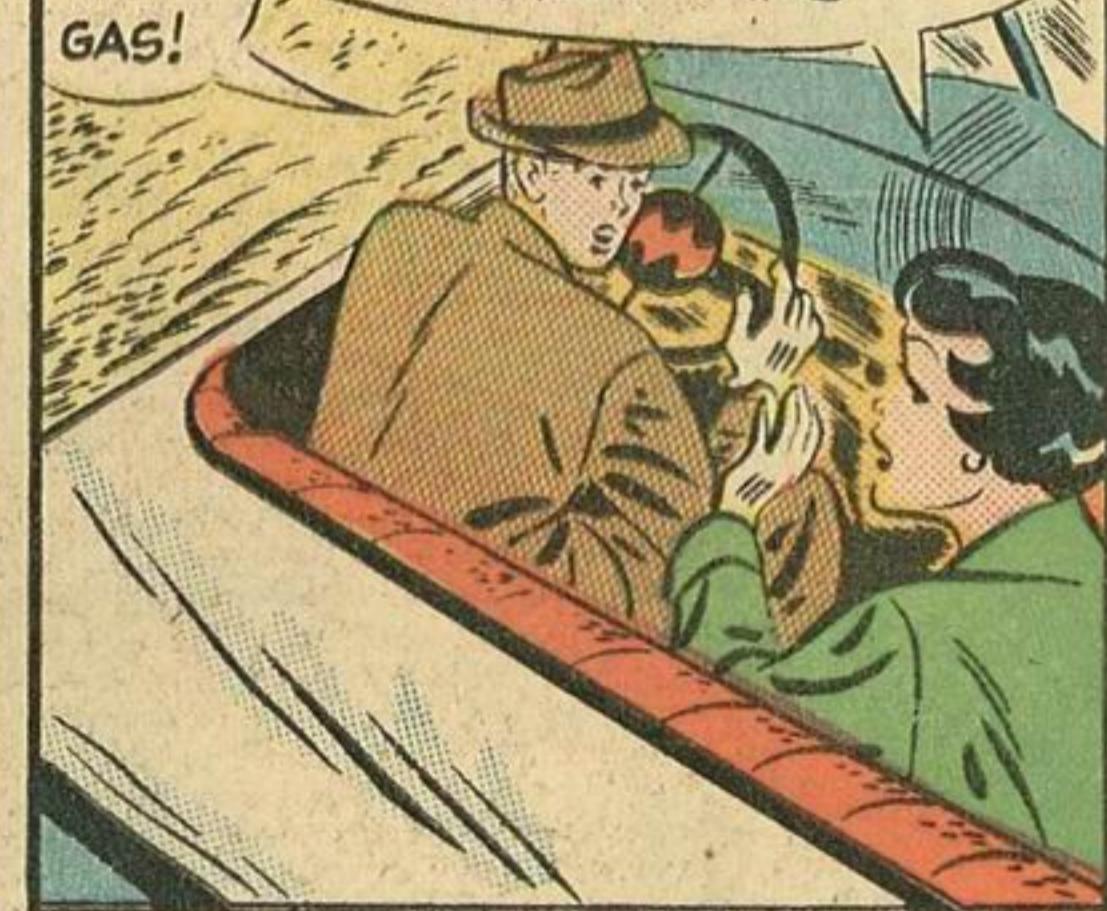
DARLING, YOU'RE SO THOUGHTFUL!



AND AS THE WEDDING DATE DRAWS CLOSER...

GOSH, HONEY, WE'RE ALL OUT OF GAS!

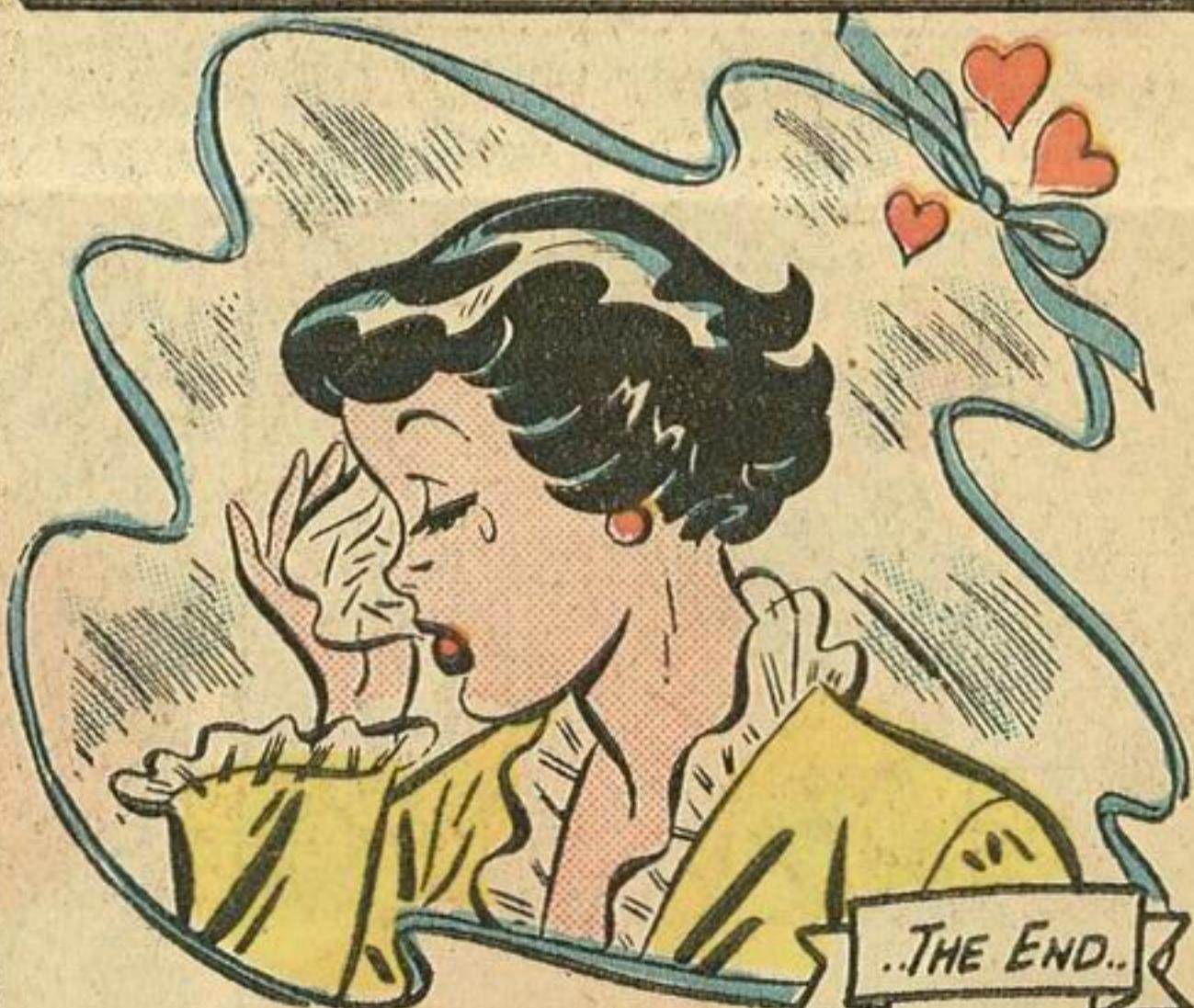
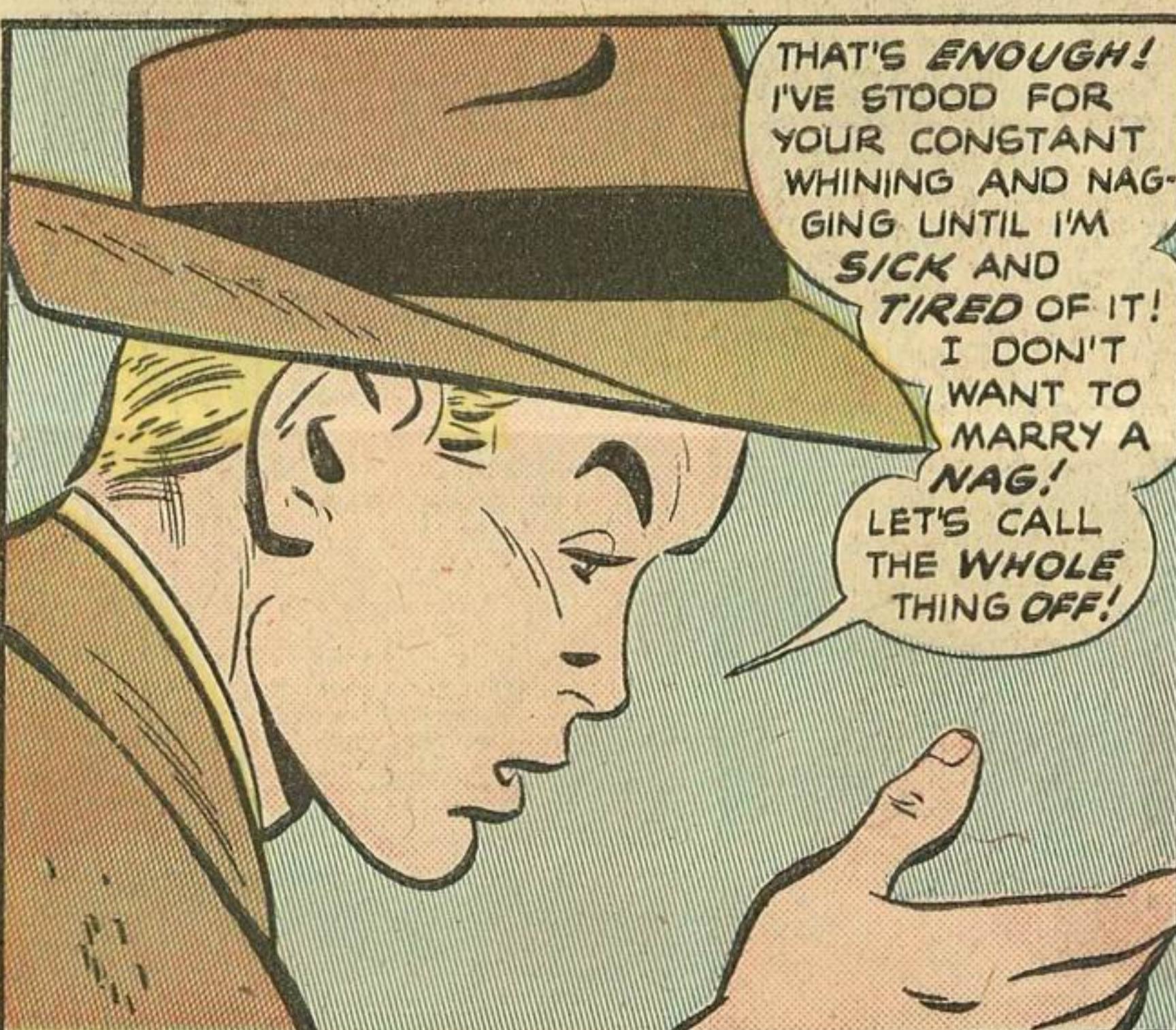
I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN! I TRIED TO REMIND YOU, BUT YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN! NOW WE'LL BE LATE AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT AND--



THAT'S ENOUGH! I'VE STOOD FOR YOUR CONSTANT WHINING AND NAGGING UNTIL I'M SICK AND TIRED OF IT!

I DON'T WANT TO MARRY A NAG! LET'S CALL THE WHOLE THING OFF!

SHE DIDN'T GET HER MAN, AFTER ALL! HER NAGGING COMPLAINTS DROVE HIM AWAY, FOR NO MAN WANTS THE DEST- RUCTIVE PETULANCE OF A CRITIC! HE WANTS THE GENTLE UNDERSTAND- ING OF THE WOMAN HE LOVES!



Miss Lee-Fashions

Style #634 MIDNIGHT MIST'RY

Entice him, excite him—exotically veiled in misty marquisette. Glamorous sheer-shaded shoulders. Devastating decolletage enhances a bewitching buttoned bodice. Twirl in a whirling, wispy skirt . . . adorned with exquisite imported Chantilly lace . . . atop a hip-hugging taffeta slip.

IN BEAUTIFUL COLORS:

- BLACK
- ROSE
- AQUA
- AMERICAN BEAUTY

Imported Chantilly Lace

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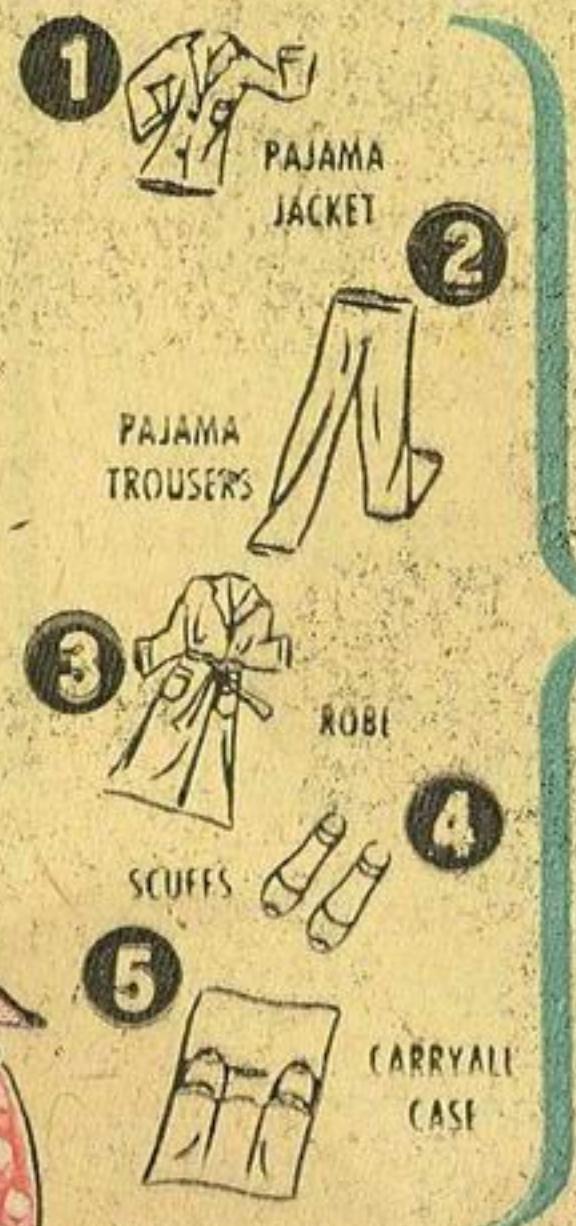
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Beautiful beyond description. Youthful, smart... just the thing for everyday wear in the street or at home. Exquisite design. Launders like a dream.

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COLORS: BLUE with Green and Maize. RED with Black and Gray.

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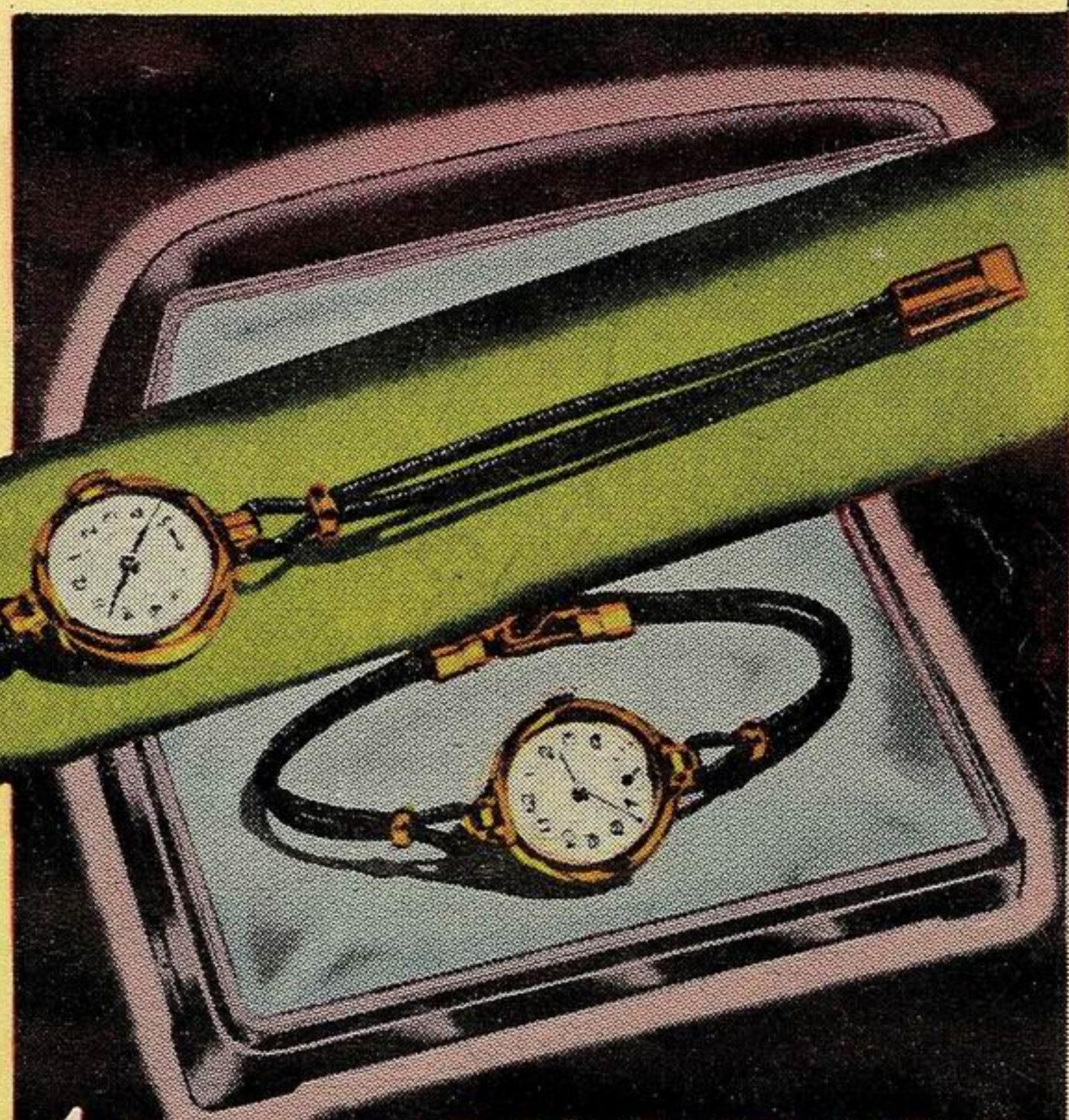


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